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# THE TIMES

Overtime as a  
cause of  
unemployment, p 14

## Government steps in as air controllers call a holiday strike

The Government intervened yesterday after the assistant air traffic controllers had voted for a four-day strike from midnight on Thursday, which would cripple Heathrow and Gatwick flights over the Bank holiday.

Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, has called both sides to his office today in an effort to avert the strike.

## Worsening delays at Heathrow

Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, will see leaders of the Civil and Air Services Association and the Civil Aviation Authority today in an effort to avert the strike of assistant air traffic controllers which is due to begin at midnight on Thursday.

He cut short a visit to his constituency of Barrow-in-Furness to return to London last night. Earlier it was announced by the union that in a ballot the controllers had voted 502 to 97 for a four-day strike over the holiday in support of a rise negotiated in 1975. The strike will involve the air traffic control assistants at Heathrow, Gatwick and Luton, the three main air centres at West Drayton, Middlesex.

Increases of between 13 and 17 per cent, which were negotiated before the strike, were the result of the strike ballot. Mr Booth said: "This is not some overblown claim brought up since August 1; it is a long-standing settlement which the Civil Aviation Authority should be allowed to honour."

If the strike is not called off up to a million passengers using Heathrow, Gatwick and Luton airports over the holiday weekend face delays and cancellations. It is too late for holiday tour operators to make alternative arrangements and all they can promise is that if they cancel flights there will be full refunds for passengers. But if travellers get tired of waiting for delayed services and withdraw from flights they will receive nothing.

The limited action so far taken by assistant air traffic controllers has caused serious delays to passengers at Heathrow yesterday. European flights were delayed for up to six hours. Passengers for international flights were boarding aircraft and then having to wait for up to three hours.

Disruption caused by the dispute yesterday spread to Luton, Britain's busiest airport for "package" flights. Hundreds of passengers were delayed for up to an hour, and one group was there for seven hours. Delays at Heathrow, where airspace is allocated for Luton's flights, were blamed. The assistants' determination to press for their pay rises has been strengthened by the support of Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC.

He said: "We accept that this was an outstanding restructuring scheme and a job evaluation exercise related to the definition of the appropriate grade which had commenced before the beginning of the 1975 policy on July 11, 1975, and under which there was before that date a close period of consultation. Steps should be possible, therefore, to lead to an early accommodation."

## Anglo-French warnings to S Africa against atom tests

M de Guiringaud, the French Foreign Minister, said in Paris yesterday that he had knowledge of preparations for a nuclear explosion being made in South Africa and that France had warned South Africa against such a move. Britain has made strong representations to the South African Government about reports that it was about to test a nuclear weapon. In Pretoria, Mr Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, who had denied on Sunday that South Africa was preparing nuclear tests, yesterday declined to comment further on the issue.

Charles Hargrove writes from Paris: France has solemnly warned the South African Government that if it went ahead with such plans France would condemn it publicly and "draw all the consequences of this condemnation". M de Guiringaud said in a broadcast interview today: "We have had information to the effect that preparations for a nuclear explosion were being made in South Africa, but the South African Government emphasises that it will be peaceful."

The solemnity given in Paris to the official demarche made on Thursday is intended to counter the wave of criticism and protest against the contract it has signed with South Africa for the delivery of two 1,000 megawatt power stations for the production of nuclear electricity. There can be no question of France severing diplomatic relations with South Africa over the matter. But a statement by the Foreign Ministry spokesman today makes it quite clear that if South Africa goes ahead with its plans, the action France would take would not be purely platonic. It might include economic reprisals and a boycott, at the limit, take the

form of cancellation of the contract for the delivery of power stations, even though the Foreign Minister again today underlined the difference "between a peaceful nuclear explosion and an explosion designed to test a military nuclear weapon". He added that it was "perfectly dishonest to maintain that the delivery of these two power stations would enable South Africa to manufacture nuclear weapons". Under the contract the retreatment of irradiated fuels would be carried out in France and the plutonium produced would not be reexported to South Africa.

M de Guiringaud made it clear, however, that even a peaceful nuclear explosion could endanger the whole peace process and have serious consequences for relations between France and South Africa. France, he went on, would certainly be under attack at the coming United Nations conference on apartheid in Lagos both for delivering arms to South Africa and for the contract on the sale of nuclear power stations, but the French delegation would reply "appropriately". The sale of arms had ceased in the autumn of 1976, after the personal decision of President Giscard d'Estaing to impose an embargo on their shipment. As for the nuclear power stations, he insisted that had there been no Second World War, there would have been no atomic bombs, "but we would still have nuclear power stations, and no one would worry about them any more than one worries about conventional oil or coal-fired power stations. It is necessary to recall these facts in order to demonstrate how dishonest it is to equate nuclear power stations with nuclear weapons."

## Hundreds killed in long battle for Dire Dawa

Nairobi, Aug 22.—Ethiopia said today that it had defeated an attempt by Somali troops, aircraft, heavy artillery and tanks to capture the country's third largest town of Dire Dawa, although both sides suffered heavy casualties. As the conflict continued to worsen, the national airline of the tiny neighbouring state of Djibouti suspended civilian flights to northern Somalia for "security and safety" reasons because the airspace was reportedly full of Somali fighter aircraft.

Responding to the weekend appeal by Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile-Mariam, the Ethiopian military leader, for the total mobilisation of the country's manpower and industrial resources, thousands of workers today demonstrated in the port of Assab and offered to fight at the front. A week of intensive fighting for Dire Dawa, the main Government stronghold in the disputed Ogaden region, Ethiopia radio said the Somali attacks had now been "totally foiled" and the invading Somali forces had been "thrown back".

Military observers said the battle for Dire Dawa was probably the largest conflict between Ethiopian forces and the Somali since insurgents invaded the Ogaden in strength in early June. It was also probably the first time the Somalis had come up against large, well-supported Ethiopian army units. In over-running much of the Ogaden, the Somalis have had to deal primarily with small, scattered units without tank or air support.

In the Government's first admission of specific battle casualties, the radio said 150 Ethiopian troops were killed and another 250 wounded in the battle for Dire Dawa, which began when Somalis attacked the town last Tuesday with rockets and mortars. Five small aircraft parked on the town's airstrip were destroyed during the Somali attack which, according to the Ethiopian, was supported by Soviet-built MIG fighters and tanks.

The Somalis also suffered heavily, a military communiqué said. The Western Somali Liberation Front has not issued its own statement on the fighting. The Ethiopians said they killed 500 attacking troops, wounded several hundred more, seized eight attacking tanks and destroyed numerous others and captured large quantities of weapons, including rockets and rocket launchers, heavy artillery pieces and anti-tank rockets.—UPI.



Chopsticks for Mr Vance and Mr Huang Hua at a dinner in Peking last night.

## Supporter of Irish unity is new Roman Catholic Primate

Christopher Walker, one of the most controversial Irish church spokesmen in recent years, Mr O Flaherty (Thomas Fee), porter of Irish unity, was elected by the Pope yesterday as Archbishop of Armagh, the Roman Catholic Primate of Ireland.

Mr O Flaherty is the first Archbishop of Armagh for more than a century not already a bishop at the time of his appointment. Before assuming spiritual leadership of the 3,500,000 Irish Catholics he will have to be episcopally ordained and it is assumed that he will also be created a cardinal.

A recognised authority on early Irish Christianity, he has written widely on the subject of Irish culture, and has written several books, including a biography of Oliver Plunkett, the seventeenth-century Archbishop of Armagh who was canonised in Rome two years ago.

His father was principal of an elementary school in south Armagh, where he began his own education, and he still has family connections in the area, including a brother who is a general practitioner in Crossmaglen. Inevitably the appointment will be treated with scepticism by extreme Protestants in Northern Ireland, but it was quickly greeted with messages of good will yesterday from all the main established Protestant churches. Torture condemned: Mr O Flaherty said in a radio interview yesterday that he abhorred the acts that had been committed by the Provisional IRA and by other paramilitary organisations (The Press Association reports).

But he continued: "Let me add also that I am shocked by some of the violence that has been carried out in this country by what are normally referred to as the forces of law and order. I have seen the result of some of that in my own native area."



Mr O Flaherty: Authority on early Christianity.

## London merchant robbed of gems worth £250,000

A London merchant was robbed of diamonds valued at £250,000 in an armed raid by two men yesterday. A cover was thrown over a video camera monitoring the door of the office, and a pistol held to Mr Polak's head, the robbers scooped up the polished gems in two pouches. They left by the stairs and mingled with people in the street. Scotland Yard issued descriptions of the three men, one of whom was believed to be wearing a chauffeur's cap.

The diamond pouches were fitted with zips. The stones were in small plastic bags. The police appealed for information from anyone who saw the men possibly boarding a bus or train in the Chancery Lane area. Mr Polak, aged 25, was not injured in the attack.

Clive Borrell writes: The police believe that the thieves had kept the building under observation for several weeks and had knowledge of the television surveillance. That is why, it is believed, they were not suspected by the security officer monitoring the screen, either when they entered the busy entrance hall or when they left.

They carry the brand names: Kelly Springfield, Prestige Radial, All American Custom Radial, Astrostar de Luxe Radial, Atlas Radial XL, Cordovan Radial, CR-10, Delta Radial 11, Multi-Mile Radial XL, Mobil Radial, PWR Radial G/P (Hallmark), OK Starmaster G, Traveller Radial 360, and Union Radial Four Star.

## Warning of faulty tyres given

Hundreds of motorists may be driving around on tyres that West Yorkshire consumer protection department suspects may be dangerous. The types of sizes 78/14 and 78/15 were manufactured by the Kelly Springfield Tyre Co in the United States.

## Tamil plea to leave Colombo

From Our Correspondent Colombo, Aug 22 Leaders of the Tamil minority in Sri Lanka today asked Mr Jayewardene, the Prime Minister, to provide ships to evacuate refugees from Colombo and Galle to the Tamil north. Mr Jayewardene told them that while everything possible would be done for the safety of refugees, he did not feel that any extraordinary measures were necessary as the situation in the country was rapidly returning to normal after the widespread communal violence.

## You're clever. And personable. But when you go for a job...

There's this terrible problem. The man across the desk asks you a question. You know the answer, but you don't reply. Because you can't hear a word he's saying. Every casual encounter that most of us take for granted can be an enormous problem to the deaf. Communicating with people at work. Ordering a meal in a restaurant. The RNID tries to help deaf people live with their affliction. To provide this help costs an enormous amount of money. And money, today, is painfully hard to find. If you can hear, will you be thankful? And help someone less fortunate by means of a donation, a mention in your Will or by Deed of Covenant. Please do something. And do it today.

No stamp needed. Please send your donation to: Royal National Institute for the Deaf, Room 3, FREEPOST, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6BR. Patron: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, KG.

**RNID**  
helps deaf people to live with deafness

## Police call for hats after football clashes

A constable has called for the issue of protective helmets to help deal with football violence. He is commenting on last Saturday's outbreak in which more than 200 arrests were made. Several towns imposed heavy fines on youths before them yesterday. The Federation of Supporters' Clubs set up a booklet advising organizations how to deal with football violence.

## TUC influence on economic strategy

The TUC decision on continued adherence to the 12-month pay rule is a keenly awaited element in the Government's economic strategy. At Blackpool next month the TUC is to consider the rejection of the 12-month rule, and more public expenditure and measures to combat unemployment.

## Leyland pay proposal

British Leyland's truck and bus division announced new pay and productivity proposals covering 30,000 workers, which it said would significantly increase pay while remaining within the Government's pay guidelines. Discussions with unions at plant level started yesterday.

## British envoy calls on PLO official

Britain's ambassador to Syria has called on a leading Palestine Liberation Organization official in Beirut at his own request. Palestinians see it as a signal for a shift in British policy but the Foreign Office categorically denies this. In Cairo, the envoy of EEC countries have met Mr Fahmi, the Egyptian Foreign Minister.

## Dental payments

People may be asked to pay privately for treatment if a dispute between dentists doing National Health Service work and the Government is not settled. The dentists object to a system under which their pay would be cut over three years.

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orange enough  
hick enough

people ambitions

Cammell dismiss 60

British Leyland's truck and bus division

People may be asked to pay privately for treatment

On other pages



## HOME NEWS

## Police chief calls for shields and helmets after football violence

Mr Ronald Gregory, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, said yesterday that he would be asking his police authority to provide shields and protective helmets for his men as a result of last Saturday's football violence.

Attacks on the police must be countered and the police presence at football matches would be strengthened. He would also be having discussions about violence at a Rugby League match in Leeds at the weekend.

It was also announced yesterday that a booklet to be issued by the National Federation of Supporters' Clubs advising member clubs how to deal with rowdies.

In several towns affected by outbreaks of violence among supporters on Saturday night, the police have arrested a number of youths.

Mr Gregory said his warning was directed at the minority who caused damage to property and caused cowardly attacks on others at football matches. "I wish them to know that they will not be tolerated. Truly behaviour will be subjected to the full rigours of the law."

"Attacks on the police are a regular feature of these confrontations. There have been very few unwarranted attacks which have caused serious injuries, and they have got to stop."

Mr Gregory said he would ask the police authority to provide protective equipment, such as shields and helmets, which his men were in violent crowds. He hoped the pattern seen when right-wing and left-wing groups clashed would not get worse but if it did the police would have to be protected.

The booklet of advice for football supporters' clubs will be available in October or November. It was announced yesterday by Mr Archibald Gooch, president of the national federation. "I was very angry at the amount of violence on Saturday," he said. "These people are ruining the game for every ordinary supporter."

Among ideas put forward in the booklet is a provision for registering coach drivers to carry supporters who were seen at the amount of violence on Saturday. Identity cards for supporters under 21 are also suggested and Mr Gooch said a conference in

the autumn would discuss football violence.

At Mansfield, Nottinghamshire where two policemen were injured and thirty arrests were made on Saturday, traders called on the police to cordon the town centre for Mansfield Town's home games. They said thousands of pounds of damage had been caused to shops before and after the game against Stoke City.

It was Mansfield's first appearance in the second division of the Football League, president of the town's chamber of trade and commerce, said: "We all heralded Mansfield's promotion from the third division but if this is the sort of trouble the second division football will bring then we do not want it. The scenes on Saturday were so frightening people would not come to the row to shop on match days."

Ipswich Town announced that they would erect crash barriers for their next home league game, against Chelsea on September 3. Mr David Rose, the club secretary, said the measure had been planned for some time and was not a direct result of Saturday's invasion of the pitch, when 33 people were arrested.

In Birmingham Terence Saville, aged 25, of Church Walk, Edgbaston, Doncaster, was sentenced to three months imprisonment for using threatening behaviour at the railway stations Saturday, eight days after being released from prison. He also admitted stealing a pie and a sandwich from the station after.

Another 19 football followers were fined for threatening behaviour and all but three were ordered to pay the maximum of £100.

Fines of £100 each were imposed on 10 people in Hull who were arrested during Hull City's game with Sunderland. Mr Norman Bailey, chairman of the magistrates, denounced football hooligans as "mindless morons".

In Bristol, a man aged 18, who was said to have jumped up and down on an asbestos roof until he fell through it, was fined £100 with £7 costs and ordered to pay £15 compensation for the damage.

Thirteen youths were each fined £100, with £7 costs, and were bound over in £200 to keep the peace for two years after admitting threatening behaviour.

## Dentists may ask for private payment

By John Roper  
Health Services Correspondent  
Dentists may ask patients to pay privately, adding more than a third to the cost of a £7 to £8 routine National Health Service treatment, unless a dispute with the Government over expenses payments is resolved.

Mr Ronald Allen, secretary of the British Dental Association, said yesterday that in the past the association had deplored selective three-yearly dentistry but in the light of the present situation that advice would probably be withdrawn. The executive council of the association will meet on September 2.

The dispute springs from the system used by the dental study group, which advises Mr Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, on dentists' pay.

Application of the system of payment would mean that £17.50 would be doctored from the pay of 16,500 dentists over the next three years because of supposed overpayments.

Mr Ennals, who does not return from his honeymoon until next weekend and is then due to go on a working tour until September 13, has offered to meet dentists' leaders. But they say he has left little time.

Deadlock was reached within the study group over the insistence by the department's representatives on keeping a "balance sheet principle", under which annual increases in dentists' expenses are adjusted to take account of over-payment or under-payment in previous years.

Dentists say costs have shot up far beyond the 3 per cent overall increase allowed by the Government. Examples, given yesterday by Mr Allen, were: filling materials increased in the last year by 15 to 20 per cent; artificial teeth by 21 per cent; laboratory charges by more than 15 per cent.

If the system continues, dentists will lose about £200 this year, £500 next year and £800 in the third year.

The average income of the 16,500 who do NHS work has been estimated by the BDA at a little over £8,000 a year.

The General Dental Practitioners' Association said yesterday that if its members' pay was cut many dentists would go to Europe, where they could make three to four times the money they are paid here, and more would turn to private practice.

Man in the news: Civil servant who took UK into value-added tax

## Sir Ronald Radford to leave Customs board

By Peter Hennessy  
The Board of Customs and Excise is an extremely English institution. It traces its origins to 742, when Ethelwald, King of Mercia, awarded the dues from two ships in the Abbey of Worcester.

When Blarney landed on the white cliffs in 1909 the Customs officer who raced up from Dover harbour was unimpressed with the historic significance of the first flight across the Channel. After a moment's thought he decided the aircraft came under the description of a yacht and slapped a quarantine certificate on it.

Sir Ronald Radford, who has been the customs board at the end of the month after four years as its chairman, is a plucky civil servant, fully 11 the down-to-earth, undemonstrative tradition of his department as illustrated on the white cliffs nearly seventy years ago.

After taking a degree in mathematics at Cambridge he began his career in the Indian Civil Service. Customs must have seemed a trifle dull after a posting as District Magistrate in Bihar, where he was responsible for two million people in the troublesome last days of the British Raj. When he joined the Home Civil Service as a second assistant principal in 1947 he was not even permitted to sign a letter without higher authority.

Whitehall will remember Sir Ronald as the man who steered the United Kingdom into



Sir Ronald Radford, framed by the loop of a still used by Gordon of Khartoum on his campaigns.

value-added tax. It is not the kind of reputation to win him the affluence of his colleagues, but Sir Ronald is not the type to worry about such matters.

VAT was the biggest trauma inflicted on customs and excise since the imposition of the general tariff in 1932. Sir Ronald, who was deputy chairman at the time, thinks they did it rather well. "It was the most demanding and fascinating job I have ever done. We looked at hundreds of bodies to ensure that it fitted a public servant to specialise on such matters."

Sir Ronald relishes the ancient traditions of his department and is firmly convinced that retaining time-honoured titles was the right decision. It means that his officers at Heathrow airport, where customs were operating a pioneering computer system for the rapid shipment of goods, were still known as Waterguards.

He sits in Kings Beam House, in the City, surrounded by the regalia of his office, with a silver mace and a bench to carry it. As chairman he is the only permanent secretary in the Civil Service permitted to fly his own flag and his official car has a white pennant, decorated by a red portcullis.

From September 1, 1978, he will apply the arcane skills of the customs man on a wider canvas when he becomes Secretary-General of the Customs Co-Operation Council, which serves 60 nations from its headquarters in Brussels. He will be succeeded in Kings Beam House by Mr Douglas Lovelock, at present Principal Establishment Officer at the departments of trade, industry, and prices and consumer protection.

It shows that 15 per cent of all children and a quarter of boys and girls in the fourth year of secondary school were absent at some time without justification, according to a six-week survey carried out in 1976. Two per cent of pupils played truant for more than half the six weeks.

Results of the survey, carried out by a committee of inquiry appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland and chaired by Professor Donald Peck, of Strathclyde University, are broadly comparable to those of similar surveys in England and Wales.

The report says some schools have much worse records than others. "The greatest percentage of pupil-time lost through truancy in any one school was 11.9 per cent, or nearly four times the national average."

It says there are no indications that indiscipline is of alarming proportions or out of control.

The question of corporal punishment, one of the most controversial in Scottish education, is not considered of much importance in handling truancy or indiscipline, but the committee thinks that progress towards its abolition would improve the atmosphere in schools.

One main recommendation is for the establishment of "day units" where pupils who persisted in truancy or unreasonable behaviour would receive continuous assessment and treatment before returning to an ordinary class. Such units, to be set up by local authorities, could be used only with the consent of parents and if the schools had tried all other measures without success.

Another proposal is that persistent indiscipline should be made an additional ground under the Education and Social Work Act for referring a pupil to the reporter to the children's panel.

Parents are seen as a key to persistent bad behaviour, and the committee suggests that their powers and responsibilities should be examined and clarified.

Other recommendations include a better attendance officer service, adequate provision for remedial education, national guidelines for child work, and a working group to consider how a support service could be provided in schools.

What causes truancy and indiscipline? Pupils the report says are often simply bored, and if they are unacademically educated they are offered not of interest to them.

Other difficulties are the earlier maturing of young people, the raising of the leaving age, teacher shortage and the rapid turnover of staff, and some teachers who cannot cope with the discipline.

The committee is not convinced that large schools, often blamed for children's bad behaviour, make much difference to discipline.

On average, the report says, the colleagues of education should review their courses for secondary teachers with a view to placing more emphasis on class management.

It also recommends strict assessment of students at co-leagues and more rigorous selection procedures. Truancy and Indiscipline in Scottish Schools (Stations Office, £2.50).

## 'Day units' urged for Scotland's truants

By a Staff Reporter  
Scottish schoolchildren are as likely to play truant as their English counterparts, on the evidence of a report published yesterday.

It shows that 15 per cent of all children and a quarter of boys and girls in the fourth year of secondary school were absent at some time without justification, according to a six-week survey carried out in 1976. Two per cent of pupils played truant for more than half the six weeks.

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## Fresh meat must show price a lb

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

An order laid yesterday will make butchers display the price of a pound of all fresh meat from March next year, ending the long-standing habit of displaying signs such as "any weight cut" and then quoting only the price for the piece cut.

Supermarkets and freezer centres usually state prices a pound of all meat sold in plastic wrapping, but independent butchers often do not.

While they mark prices a pound, known as unit prices, for such cuts as mince and steak, they often fail to do so on prepared joints and large pieces of the carcass displayed on the bone.

The Price Marking (Meat) Order was laid yesterday by Mr Robert Maclean, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, after more than 18 months of negotiation with traders. The new rules will come into force on March 1 next, but Mr Maclean wants butchers to adopt them by September 1.

They cover all fresh meat except a few items, like bones and trotters, sold for less than 10p. Bacon is not covered. Sales of meat by metric weight will not be enforced for at least 2 1/2 years, although farmers' self animals to slaughter by the kilogram.

## Union collaboration to face further pressure

By Tim Jones  
Labour Staff

The Government's relationship with the unions will come under further pressure when the Trades Union Congress considers in Blackpool next month resolutions calling for the removal of anomalies, more public expenditure and more measures to combat unemployment.

Other resolutions call for the postponement of price rises in nationalised industries and school meal charges; the removal of lower-paid workers from the tax net; restoration of food subsidies to 1976 levels; more money for the National Enterprise Board and bigger allowances under the Child Benefit Act, 1975.

The National Union of Journalists asks the congress to accept that the rival Institute of Journalism is "an anti-trade union organisation" which has "effectively sabotaged, through blatant strike-breaking, the pursuit of legitimate trade union ends, economic and organisational, by the only union for journalists, the NUJ."

The amendment states that the NUJ "should be required to report on its activities to the public and to the Government."

Amendments by the Association of Scientific Technicians and Managerial Staffs, the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades

and the National Graphical Association ask the congress "regrettably" to decline the general council's endorsement of the 12-month rule.

The congress will also be asked to give priority to reducing the working week to 35 hours to ease unemployment.

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Amendments by the Association of Scientific Technicians and Managerial Staffs, the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades

and the National Graphical Association ask the congress "regrettably" to decline the general council's endorsement of the 12-month rule.

The congress will also be asked to give priority to reducing the working week to 35 hours to ease unemployment.

Other resolutions call for the postponement of price rises in nationalised industries and school meal charges; the removal of lower-paid workers from the tax net; restoration of food subsidies to 1976 levels; more money for the National Enterprise Board and bigger allowances under the Child Benefit Act, 1975.

## 5 years for man who injured child

By a Staff Reporter

A man was jailed for five years yesterday for an assault that was wanted, damaged the brain of a girl aged three and might leave her right side paralysed for life.

The High Court, in Dumfries, had been told that when Ian Stirling, aged 22, a labourer, took the unconscious child to a doctor, she had 57 bruises and "death rattle" breathing.

Mr Stirling had denied attempting to murder Donna Anderson in his caravan home at Moffat by repeatedly punching her. The charge was amended from attempted murder to assault.

Prosecution witnesses said the child was left in Mr Stirling's care when her mother, Mrs Ellen Anderson, aged 21, with whom he was living, was taken to hospital in labour on June 5.

Mr Stirling said that after the girl collapsed he gave her the "kiss of life", thinking she had had an asthma attack.

He had smacked her when she awoke, but denied being violent.

Mrs Anderson told the court that Mr Stirling was like a father to the child.

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## Scottish oil fund plan to be urged

From Our Correspondent  
Glasgow

The Scottish executive of the Labour Party will ask the Prime Minister at their meeting in Edinburgh tomorrow week to set up an oil development fund to help the Scottish economy and other depressed areas of the United Kingdom.

Mrs Helen Liddell, the party's Scottish secretary, said in Glasgow yesterday that that was not a new demand from the labour movement in Scotland. But she thought the benefits of such a fund should be distributed throughout the country according to need. The North-

east, Northern Ireland and the depressed regions of Wales also would need special assistance.

Such a fund could help to create a dynamic regional policy. Mrs Liddell said the Scottish executive would put the scheme to Mr Callaghan as a means of reducing unemployment.

They would not ask the Government to give more money to the Scottish Development Agency Mrs Liddell said, but they would ask for more powers for the agency and for the Government to examine the role of the National Enterprise Board, which had adopted a par-

ticularly low-key approach. Scottish Secretary Mr Callaghan is expected to visit the itinerary for his visit to Scotland from August 31 to September 5.

On the first day he will be in Edinburgh and Kirkcaldy. Political engagements in Falkirk and Glasgow will dominate September 2, and on September 3 he will visit Motherwell and Glasgow.

Mr Callaghan will also visit the Forestry Commission's estate at Culoden and lunch with the Highlands and Islands Development Board in Inverness.

## Leyland fined for breaching factory safety

From Our Correspondent  
Wigan

British Leyland was fined a total of £300 by magistrates at Leyland, Lancashire, yesterday for two breaches of safety regulations in its factories at Farington and Spurrier. The offences were admitted.

In one of the incidents from which the prosecutions arose a man suffered severe injuries when a chassis fell on him. In the other, a man's hand was trapped in a guillotine machine and was severely bruised.

Mr Charles Conle, for the prosecution, said the chassis was being lifted by an overhead crane to be fitted to an engine. The front sling slipped from the crane hook.

In the second case an employee put his hand through an opening at the side of the guillotine machine to collect metal. He asked the operator to stop the machine but because of noise his request could not have been heard. The accident could have been avoided if the machine had been fitted with a guard.

Mr Malcolm Jowett, for the company, said that in the first incident there was nothing wrong with the hook but a clamp had now been inserted which made it impossible for the sling to escape.

Dealing with the second incident, he said a rake was provided for removing metal that became jammed, but a guard had since been installed.

A woman collector for a football pool syndicate pocketed most of the stake money she was given and sent in a different coupon with a £1 stake, Rocherham magistrates were told yesterday. Had she sent in the correct coupon her husband would have won more than £800.

Mrs Sylvia Rayner, aged 35, of Machin Drive, Rawmarsh, near Rotherham, South Yorkshire, was given a conditional discharge after pleading guilty to stealing £15 of the £16 weekly stake money for seven weeks. She was ordered to pay £95 compensation.

A charge of forging a pool coupon was dismissed after the prosecution had offered no evidence.

Mr Philip Chadwick, for the prosecution, said that for nine years Mrs Rayner, mother of three children, had collected money and coupons for the syndicate of 11 people. A year ago she lost her part-time job and became short of money.

Her thefts are uncovered when eight weeks after she began pocketing £15 of the £16 weekly stake money syndicate members checked their coupons and found they should have won about £9,000.

Mr William Harthill, for the defence, said Mrs Rayner had

## Six-hour delays for some air travellers

By Ian Bradley

Flights from Heathrow were delayed by up to six hours yesterday because of the air traffic control assistants' pay dispute. The assistants have decided to strike for four days over the Bank Holiday.

The longest delays at Heathrow were on European flights by British Airways and other operators. A flight to Athens was six hours late in taking off, and journeys to Paris were about four hours late.

The strike was beginning to tell on tired staff and frustrated passengers. A physicist, aged 29, who had waited four hours for a flight to Hamburg, described himself as "a disenchanted Englishman who has emigrated to America because of things like this". He added: "This is the last time I come back."

He delivered a lecture to his fellow passengers on how the British should work harder and strike less.

A man who had waited for four hours for a flight to Palma, Majorca said: "I am sorry I did not take the family to Brighton for two weeks."

Matters were made worse by the aftermath of a British Airways catering strike. The strike ended last week, but many long-distance flights were still leaving without their usual food stocks and were supplying instead a head mess of sandwiches, cakes and fruit.

The airline was allowing passengers to eat what they liked in the way of snacks free of charge in the departure lounge buffets before they boarded their aircraft.

By drawing up flight plans.

Usually all information for flight plans comes from an IBM 9100D computer, which records all civil aircraft movements in Britain.

The chaos of the past few days has been caused by the work of the 250 assistants who usually operate the computer. They have been writing out all flight plans by



HOW INSURANCE WORKS: 7



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## HOME NEWS

Foreign students in Britain 2: Lucrative university summer schools  
Attentive response to literature and culture

By Ian Bradley  
In universities and colleges throughout Britain this summer foreign students are grappling with the intricacies of the British parliamentary system and James Joyce's prose.

Nearly every British university is now involved in the lucrative business of providing summer courses for foreigners. Kent University is full of young Canadians and Americans studying English history, art and life. East Anglia, Reading, Aston and Sussex are hosts to English language schools. At Aberdeen, Leeds, Dartmouth, Newcastle, Exeter and Swansea English teachers from around the world have been attending courses run by the British Council.

First among the summer schools are the International Graduate Summer Schools, which were started after the war by the Foreign Office to foster Anglo-American understanding. About 65 per cent of the students still come from the United States and Canada, where they are helped by English-Speaking Union and government scholarships, but an increasing number are coming from Europe and Japan.

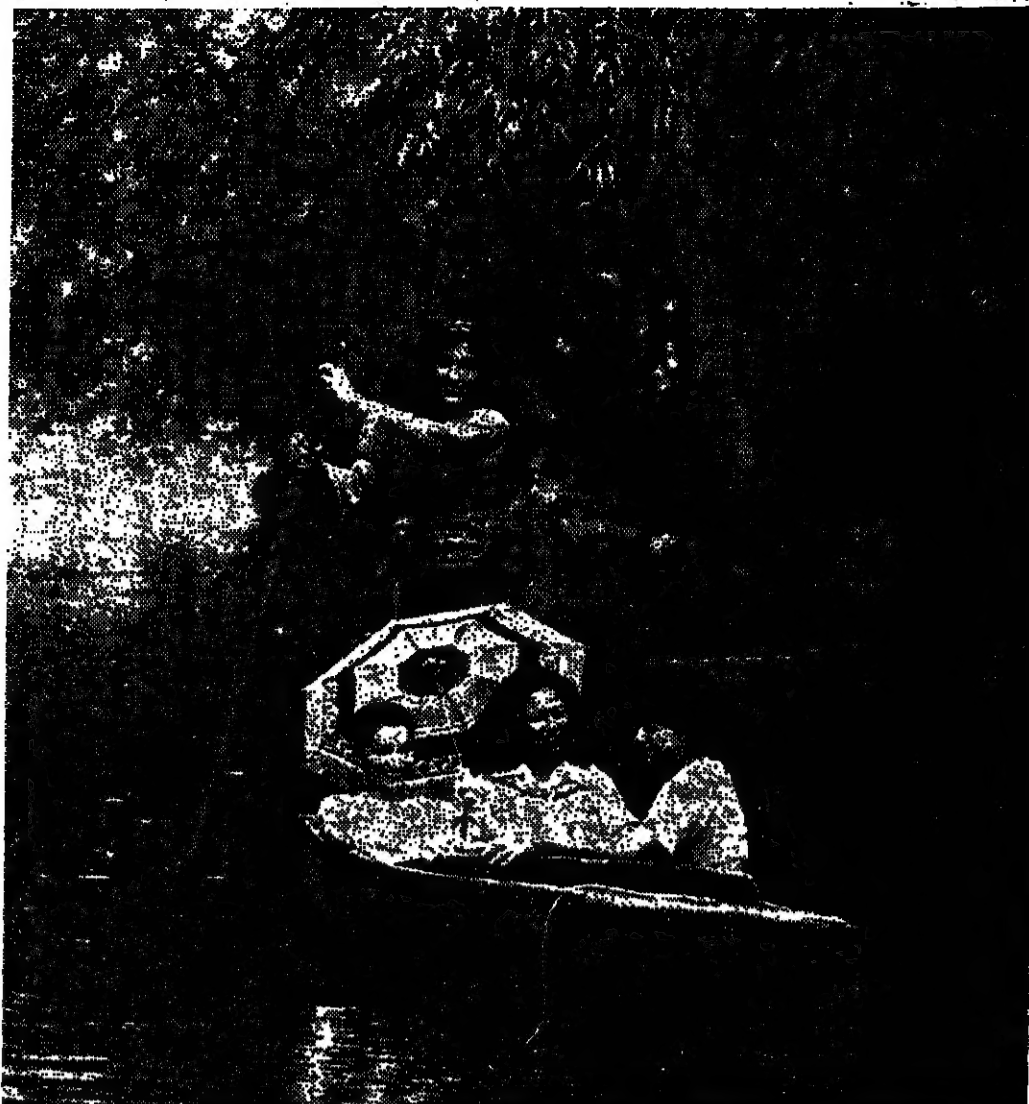
The age range is 19 to 77 and this year's batch of students included a neurosurgeon from Spain and a New York banker, although most were postgraduates in their early twenties.

There were four International Graduate Summer Schools this year. Birmingham University has a course on drama and theatre in the age of Shakespeare, London offered English literature and culture in the twentieth century, Oxford concentrated on British literature and history in the last hundred years and Edinburgh featured British literature and history from 1840 to 1940.

The foreign students are much more diligent than their English counterparts, perhaps because they can receive credits for their attendance at the summer schools.

Lectures all start at 9 am, long before any self-respecting British student would expect to be up and about. There are seminars at least twice a week and students are encouraged to write at least two papers during their five-week course.

Tutors, who are recruited for the summer schools from



Arab girl students from Kuwait University find putting one of the more agreeable aspects of life at an Oxford summer school.

British universities, report more than 200,000 foreign students in the last hundred years and Edinburgh featured British literature and history from 1840 to 1940.

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## Pneumoconiosis is being beaten

Executives and medical staff of the National Coal Board in Wales are anxious about a report by the Government's Health and Safety Executive, which has been interpreted as showing an increase in pneumoconiosis, the cruel and crippling dust disease of mining. They complain that the executive's figures, which have been read as showing an increase in the disease, have almost doubled in five years, a reversal of the truth, which is that pneumoconiosis is being steadily beaten.

Concern is being felt by men throughout the industry that misinterpretation could worry miners, that the disease would be recruited to mining. For the dust is not only a medical and engineering difficulty. It is also an emotive matter in Welsh valleys where people have seen friends, fathers and brothers tormented and ruined by coughing and breathlessness. There are bitter memories of the way compensation was handled in the bad old days, and it is generally acknowledged that it was the militant insistence of miners that gave a push to the dust disease, a better deal for dust sufferers.

The dust hazard is greater in South Wales than anywhere else in Britain. Most of the 39,000 registered pneumoconiosis in Britain are in Wales. Geology and conditions in the mines are the going hard and the pits dusty; and dust disease, and the fear of it, are factors that have to be taken into account in the complicated equations of Welsh mining. The dust is the best anthracite and coking coal anywhere, but the obstacle is the struggle against the worst conditions, a matter of balance.

## Regional report

Trevor Fishlock  
Cardiff

ing costs, manpower, health and human relationships.

In the years since nationalisation, and especially in the past 10 years, the battle against the dust has intensified. Research costs £500,000 a year and dust control is now an important part of mining practice and engineering. Dust suppression techniques, including water spraying, which has been developed in South Wales pits, are now in use throughout the industry.

The key to dust disease is in the weight of the tiny dust particles that penetrate the natural filters of nose and throat and enter the lungs. The dust that can be seen glittering in the beam of a miner's lamp is not the dust that causes the disease. It is the dust that is trapped naturally. Dust disease is caused by smaller particles falling at a certain speed. Mechanical "nozes" have been invented to snuff the air on the ground and monitor respirable dust levels. The dust level is too high, mining has to stop.

Dust suppression and detection have made modern mining much safer. Dust disease no longer kills men under 40 and the cure is now available. The Health and Safety Executive figures show that no man under 35 had the disease in 1975, and the latest unpub-

lished figures for 1976 also show a "nil return" for under 35s in Wales.

However, the executive's figures appear to show that dust sufferers in South Wales have increased from more than three per thousand in 1971 (114 men) to six per thousand (186 men) in 1975. This is where misinterpretation can begin. In 1974 the coal board introduced a new compensation scheme and its scope enabled many former miners to apply for all.

For that reason the number of cases examined by the pneumoconiosis panel increased five fold during 1975-76, and three-fifths of all the men certified as having the disease were men who had left the industry.

Since the introduction of the scheme more than £123m has been paid in compensation, £100m by the Government and the rest by the coal board.

Mr Philip Weekes, the board's South Wales director, said: "There is still a long way to go before dust danger is eliminated, but the work done by scientists, engineers and the National Union of Mineworkers itself has ensured that today any young man going into mining will not contract dust disease in his working life to the extent that it will disable him."

The health executive itself says its figures on this matter should be treated with caution. But it should have taken greater care to avoid misinterpretation. People in the mining communities need to be reassured that progress is being made and that dust control is making mining healthier than it has even been.

## Student's visa

was a  
year out of date

Siow Choo Poh, a Malaysian student, aged 26, of Upper Montague Street, St Marylebone, London, was fined £25 at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court yesterday for overstaying a one-year visitor's visa by a further year.

She asked to be allowed to stay in Britain until December to complete a shorthand course for which she had already paid a non-refundable fee of £240. She explained that she needed to reach 100 words a minute and had failed an earlier examination.

Mr Donald Ford, the magistrate, decided not to recommend deportation. "If you approach the Home Office they will probably grant you leave to stay," he said.

Free enterprise  
plea over buses

The next Conservative government should restore free enterprise to road passenger transport, the Selwyn Culp said yesterday.

A statement by the free-market group for Conservatives called for restrictions on bus routes, vehicle size and conditions of service as being responsible, for example, for rural transport difficulties. The public were being denied the benefits of competition and experiment it said.

More Home News, page 12

Arsonist to pay  
compensation  
to neighbour

From Our Correspondent  
Reading

A management consultant who started fires at a neighbour's home during a party to celebrate a football pool win was bound over to keep the peace yesterday.

Earlier this year David Wilson-Bell, aged 46, of Maiden Erleigh Drive, Reading, pleaded guilty to a charge of arson and another of attempted arson. Sentence was deferred for six months.

Reading Crown Court was told yesterday that Mr Wilson-Bell tried to start a fire under a car and six the neighbour's front door and porch ablaze. He was caught by party guests when he returned to the scene later with a can of petrol under his coat.

Mr Wilson-Bell, a former Army Intelligence Corps Officer, was bound over in the sum of £100 for two years and ordered to pay £150 compensation and £100 costs.

## Student rebates

It is regretted that, after an industrial dispute which is now resolved, there are delays in processing refunds and in dealing with correspondence from students. We apologise for any inconvenience but all inquiries are being cleared as rapidly as possible.

## Warning by Press Council on 'quotes'

It is improper for a reporter to attribute words to people being interviewed words not chosen by them, the Press Council says in an adjudication today. It upholds a complaint against the *Evening News*, London.

In a report about an event which, the newspaper said, was being held to test the sporting mettle of Staffordshire Bull Terriers, it quoted Mrs. Maria Lavender as saying: "We are trying to restore the in-built competitive nature of this pit-fighter turned show dog."

Mrs Lavender of Tanderidge Drive, Orpington, Kent, former treasurer of the Sporting Staffordshire Bull Terrier Association, told the newspaper that she had not made the statement

attributed to her, which she found upsetting and misleading. She said no one on her telephone had spoken to the *Evening News* or any journalist.

Mr P. W. Trumble, assistant managing editor, told the council that the report was based on information sent to the newspaper by the secretary of the Sporting Staffordshire Bull Terrier Association. A press officer also sent to them, confirmed the quotation complained of. Although Mrs Lavender did not use the words published, they were read to her and she agreed with them.

The reporter, Miss Catherine Olsen, told the Press Council that she had spoken to a woman at a telephone number given

to her as Mrs Lavender's and assumed that was Mrs Lavender. She recalled confirming various points and said she had not taken notes as the facts from the association, which she had before her.

The Press Council's adjudication was: Even if the telephone interview with the complainant took place, which may be in doubt, the words used in the report were not the complainant's but those of the Sporting Staffordshire Bull Terrier Association. As a matter of general principle it is improper in the Press Council's view to attribute to a person being interviewed words used by the reporter which are not those chosen by the person being interviewed.

Building society  
man for trial

William Robinson, former general manager of the Wakefield Building Society, was sent for trial at Leeds Crown Court by Wakefield City Magistrates' Court yesterday, accused of stealing £36,000 from the society.

Mr Robinson, aged 72, of Oulton, near Leeds, was granted bail totalling £6,000. He faces 20 charges of stealing cash and cheques, 17 of making false entries and falsifying records, eight of forging documents, one of obtaining a cheque by deception and one of perjury.

## WEST EUROPE

Debate on  
Spanish  
constitution  
begins

From Harry Debellus  
Madrid, Aug. 22

The debate began in the Spanish Parliament today on what will be Spain's eleventh constitution. When it is finished, it will take the place of General Franco's "fundamental laws".

The debate, at present limited to a committee appointed to draw up a draft constitution, is expected to be long and intense. However, there are signs that one of the main issues, whether or not the document should specifically define Spain as a monarchy, may not cause any conflict.

The version sponsored by the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE), which is opposed in principle to the monarchy as a "reactionary" institution, is leaving it to be settled in the future. Informed sources say that the Spanish Communist Party is also willing to accept some noncommittal wording on the matter.

The question which hreains is whether the majority party, the Centre Democratic Union (UCD), and other parties of the centre and the right will agree to express specific references to the state as a monarchy. King Juan Carlos himself gave the Government more than a broad hint when he referred to himself in his inaugural address to Parliament here last month as "constitutional monarch".

One of them put it: "There are too many foreigners around". Concluded Growth Industry, page 6

However, Basque and Catalan parties would prefer to have the matter clarified constitutionally, in order to make it perfectly clear that they have a right to regional self-government which cannot be revoked by decree, or even by ordinary legislation.

With regard to the question of the immediate dissolution of the Cortes (Parliament) and new elections once the constitution is adopted, there are two positions. One, sustained primarily by the right-wing and probably the centre, is that the members of the Cortes were elected for four years and that they should serve their full term of office.

It will presumably be at that stage, sustained by the left, is that the present Parliament should not be considered as anything more than a constituent assembly, bound to give way to a new one, once the nation has a democratic constitution.

Madrid, Aug. 22—A missing Barcelona policeman, who the extremist organisation Grapo claimed to have kidnapped, has turned up unharmed on the other side of Spain, police said.

The policeman, Senior Jose Lopez Carballero, aged 34, said he had been abducted by several individuals who drove him by car to the north-western city of Lugo. Senior Lopez said he remembered nothing else.

UPL

Call for experts  
to solve Dutch  
abortion dispute

From Our Correspondent  
The Hague, Aug. 22

Mr Joop den Uyl, the Dutch caretaker Prime Minister, has proposed forming a group of independent experts to study the question of abortion, which is still holding up the formation of a coalition government three months after the general election.

Mr den Uyl's Socialist Party has reached an agreement with the Christian Democrats on social and economic policy, including the controversial question of profit-sharing by workers. But the Christian Democrats refuse to liberalise the abortion law as the Socialists propose.

If Mr den Uyl fails in his latest attempt, a likely alternative would be a right-wing coalition of Christian Democrats and Conservatives with a one-seat majority in Parliament.

Cunhal visit to  
Moscow ends

Lisbon, Aug. 22—Dr Alvaro Cunhal, the Portuguese Communist Party's Secretary-General, returned here from Moscow early today after a 16-day visit in which he had talks with President Brezhnev and other Soviet leaders.

Dr Cunhal made no statement on arrival.—Reuter.

## Danish Cabinet seeks tax rises

From Geoffrey Dodd  
Copenhagen, Aug. 22

The Danish minority Government today tabled a package of 31 Bills, most of them involving new or increased taxes, to the Folketing. The package is a stopgap measure after weeks of unsuccessful negotiation with the non-Socialist opposition parties on economic policy.

Mr Anker Joergensen, the Prime Minister, said the Bills would reduce the balance of payments deficit and bring a modest improvement in employment.

The measures include a 3 per cent increase in value-added tax to 18 per cent, price increases for cigarettes, spirits, petrol and heating oil, higher motor vehicle registration fees and stamp duties, and a tax on pleasure boats and gambling machines. They are expected to yield £700m yearly over three years.

## Extremists openly demanding overthrow of democracy

Herr Brandt warns Germany of  
growing violence by neo-Nazis

From Gretel Spitzer  
Bonn, Aug. 22

Herr Willy Brandt, the Social Democratic Party chairman, pointed out today that he had drawn the Government's attention to a resurgence of neo-Nazi activities more than a month before the escape from Italy of the war criminal, Herbert Kappler.

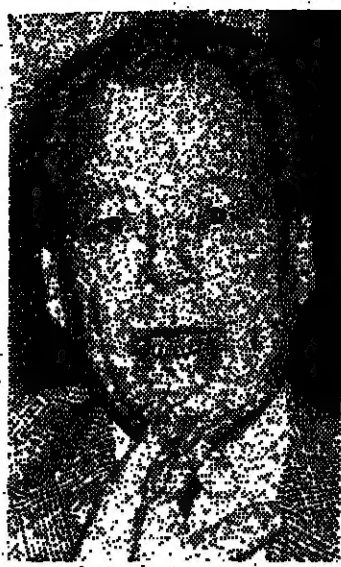
Herr Brandt's warning, made in a letter to Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, has been linked in the press here with the former SS colonel's removal from Rome to West Germany on Monday last week.

But in an interview with *The Times* today Herr Brandt pointed out that his letter had been written on July 12, although news of it was not made public until last Thursday.

Herr Brandt would not even go so far today as to say that there was more than the usual amount of neo-Nazi activities. But there was more violence involved than in the past.

He thought that the attention of the Government should be drawn to complaints about meetings of extremist militant and political groups, when Nazi symbols were shown in public and Nazi ideas promoted. At such rallies, he stated, open calls were made for a fight against the free democratic order of the federal republic.

As he had said in his letter, Herr Brandt said that he was aware that organisers of such meetings, in the people who attended them were a small minority in West Germany.



Herr Willy Brandt: Room for suspicion that local authorities are less vigilant about danger from right than from extreme left.

This view is shared by the Government. Its spokesman, Herr Armin Gruenewald, said last Friday that there was no cause for concern over a resurgence of National Socialism.

In his letter, however, Herr Brandt went further than drawing attention to the concern of citizens over neo-Nazi activities.

He wrote: "Such events arouse no understanding or even concern among many of our citizens if they take place with the knowledge or approval of

the competent authorities, or if those who turn against such machinations have to put with having their own meeting vetoed and with legal action taken against them."

This gave room for suspicion that those people on the left level, required to make decisions on such matters, were considerably less vigilant about the danger from right extremists and neo-Nazi groups than they were about anti-German sentiment among extremists at the other of the political spectrum, Herr Brandt wrote.

He would be grateful if Federal Government would deal with the matter in whatever way it deemed suitable.

The Chancellor is expected to answer the letter on his return from holiday.

In its last annual report 1976 the Bundesamt Verfassungsschutz, the German Federal Office for the security of the federal republic from the right extremists.

Political sources here the hard core of about activists had not increased the recent past. New recruits are formed from a but it is always the same people who are involved. They noticed, however, that wing extremists seemed to off lightly on conviction sentences were often suspended. They also wondered why the money was coming from allow such groups to carry.

Leading article, page

Andreotti Government faces  
Kappler escape issue

From Peter Nichols  
Rome, Aug. 22

The Italian Parliament is due to take up for the first time tomorrow the case of Herr Herbert Kappler's escape, Senator's defence committee will bear a report from Signor Vito Lattanzio, the Minister of Defence.

The same evening the Rome municipality is organising a protest meeting in the old Jewish quarter which will be addressed by the mayor. On Friday, the Cabinet will meet.

It will presumably be at that stage, sustained by the left, is that the present Parliament should not be considered as anything more than a constituent assembly, bound to give way to a new one, once the nation has a democratic constitution.

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UPL

French coastguard detains  
intrepid British mariner

Cherbourg, Aug. 22—Mr Bill Harper, an intrepid British mariner of 81, has reached Cherbourg on his fourth attempt to find the Mediterranean, but has been stopped from continuing the voyage until his safety equipment is checked.

The French coastguard said Mr Harper, who has twice caused a stir in the Mediterranean, was launched after he lost his bearings, arrived here last night aboard his 51ft motor cruiser Windell. Four other people, two men and two women, were also on board.

The French authorities, who had been asked by their British colleagues to look out for Mr

long silence from Bonn which had already shaken Italian opinion last week when reports emerged to the effect that the Germans had refused an Italian request to issue a statement deploring the actual escape.

The Government itself has a particular reason for uneasiness, quite apart from any allegations of inefficiency. Though a minority Christian Democratic Administration, its programme is based on an agreement among all the parties except the extreme right. This is the first time since the immediate post-war years that an attempt has been made to place the anti-fascist character of Italian post-war democracy to the test.

The flight of Herr Kappler is seen here to be an encouragement to the extreme right both in Italy and in Germany.

Sue Mesterman writes from Vienna: The Kappler escape has been blamed by leading Jewish circles in Austria for stirring up a new wave of anti-Nazi sentiment and anti-Semitic activity.

During the weekend 40 graves in a Jewish suburban cemetery were desecrated, and the walls of both the main synagogue and the synagogue in the central cemetery were covered with slogans favourable to war-time photographs.

The Kappler affair has received broad coverage in the Austrian press. It coincides with the issue of two Hitler films in Austrian cinemas.

Camp  
problem  
We

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## Villagers flee scrub fire

Canzanaro, Italy, Aug. 22—A scrub fire has forced 1,000 people to flee the village of San Costantino in Calabria today. It is thought to have been started deliberately.

Fanned by the wind the fire

No rush for  
forbidden  
Paris book

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Aug. 22

The *Order* (heft) of the *Revue Nationale* has opened doors at last to all the over 15,000 Frenchmen who have been waiting for a book which, in the opinion of the Government of the reading committee, was "too dangerous" to be published.

This section, focused at the beginning of the 20th century, became the repository for all works which, in the opinion of the Government of the reading committee, were "too dangerous" to be published. It was accessible to a special permit, issued on those who wished to study the works which they were engaged in serious literary or scientific research, and not merely for curiosity.

Since 1960 no work, whether or not it was a book, had been published in France which had been banned by the *Revue Nationale*. It has been placed on the shelves of the *Revue Nationale*.

Guillaume Apollinaire, *Le Poète*, and *Le Poète* of the 20th century, of which works were the *Revue Nationale* was the repository for all works which, in the opinion of the Government of the reading committee, were "too dangerous" to be published. It was accessible to a special permit, issued on those who wished to study the works which they were engaged in serious literary or scientific research, and not merely for curiosity.

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Bomb attack  
moderate  
Corsican party amnesty

Marseilles, Aug. 22—explosion early today at a printing works in Marseilles produces a Corsican weekly magazine reflecting views of the moderate *du Peuple Corse*.

It was the second of three months against a fine, which was printed since last May when plosion and fire destroyed offices and printing facilities. No one has yet been responsible for today's explosion.

The Union *du Peuple* led by Dr Edmond aims to win autonomy for Corsica by peaceful means. It strongly criticises militant Corsican Liberation Front which has been carrying out a series of bombings in Corsica, made "outright" independent.

On several occasions it has planned a solemn day of these works. It was saved from the presence of mind of the staff who it of them away.

If the rush to ogie the materialized, it is harpising. Most of the days can be freely obtained from bookshops and way stalls.

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concerts Simon Simon, Solists  
concerts, Chamber Symphony  
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## THE ARTS



Rinke's Primary Demonstration, and, right, a desk from Kantor's

The Bead Class

## ROSC '77: contemporary European art

The first ROSC exhibition in 1967 was the first major show of contemporary international art in Ireland. It consisted of works by 50 of the best-known living artists from Europe and America. The second ROSC in 1971 showed works by another 50 artists who had not been included before or who had made their reputation in the intervening four years.

The third exhibition should have been in 1975 but had to be postponed for two years in succession because of financial difficulties, the Grace Corporation and Gulf Oil, who supported the first two ROSCs, having withdrawn their backing. The current exhibition has been made possible by the sponsorship of the Bank of Ireland and J. P. Carroll & Co Ltd.

Because of the financial limitations it was decided to put on a wholly European exhibition chosen by a European jury, Ronald Aber, keeper of the Modern Collection at the Tate, Ryszard Stanislawski, director of the Szuk Museum at Lodz in Poland, and Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the French critic.

It would be difficult to pretend that the resulting exhibition is not a little disappointing. This has nothing to do with the terms of ROSC's '77—the concentration of contemporary European art to the exclusion of American or other work. Indeed, the presence of Stanislawski on the jury and the promised inclusion of art from east Europe, an area virtually unknown in Ireland or, for that matter, in Britain, rather than the more obvious choice of Poland, Romania, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary.

There are a number of reasons, largely of course, political, why we have seen so little of this in Western Europe, although German, French, Italian and Scandinavian audiences have had more opportunities to see east European art than we have in these offshore islands.

The theme of Op 109's final Variations was most beautifully shaded, however, and there was subtle colouring, as well as finely judged proportions, in the first movements of the Sonata Op 110. The character of the quick middle movement, a true scherzo in this case, was better observed, and in the finale there was a more convincing reconciliation of opposites than in the first movement of Op 109. Largely this was a matter of the quick sense of motion uniting the lyrical and the fugue sections.

It is a striking thought not often remarked, feature of these last three Beethoven sonatas, incidentally, that in each case the last movement is by far the weightiest. Certainly this was so in Op 111, the sonata in which Mr Eschenbach was most uniformly successful. The first of this work's two movements emerged hard-chiselled, absolutely decisive; the development section is highly concentrated, though, and a pianist has to make his interpretative choices quickly, which Mr Eschenbach did.

The remaining movement, another set of variations, received the afternoon's finest playing, a mood of absolute calm prevailing through all the music's passing intricacies. After such a performance it is rather hard to agree with a remark Beethoven made shortly after completing the three sonatas, to the effect that the piano was "an unsatisfactory instrument".

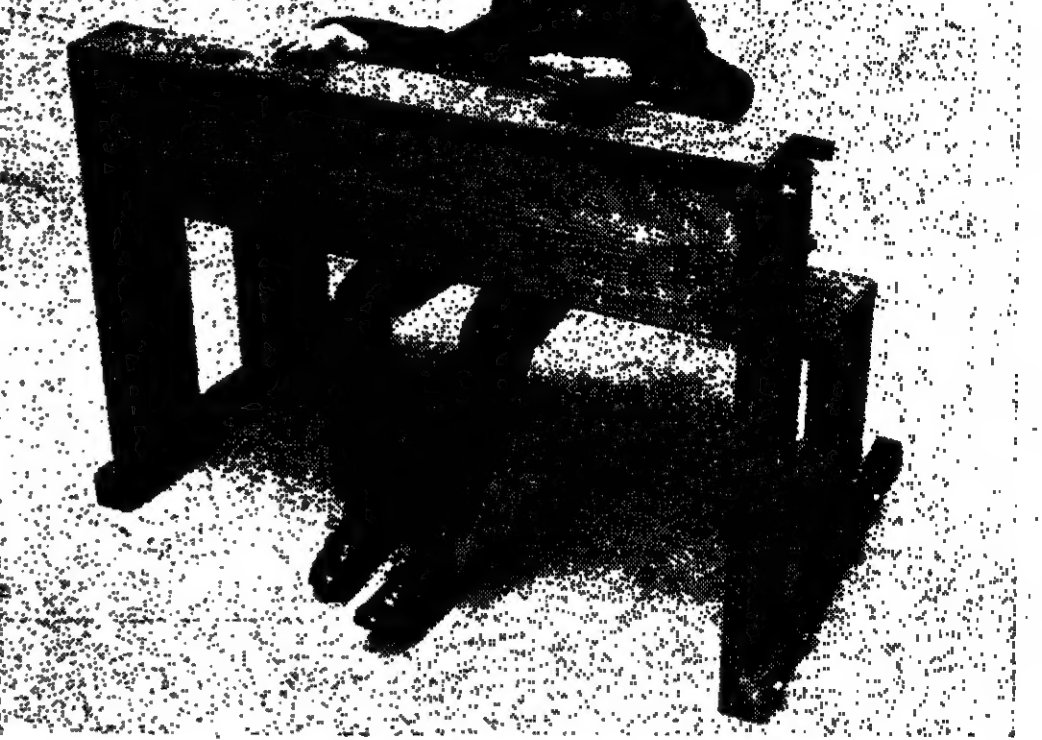
Only four dancers from the Queensland Modern and Contemporary Dance Company appeared in their two pieces, but they all had good physique and appearance. They seemed accomplished performers, too; if the rest of the company is on a similar level it exceeds any other amateur group I have seen.

to be entirely unpolitical in content. Ireland, who read medicine at University College, Dublin, originally went to America to study aspects of visual perception at Harvard. His sculptural constructions appear to relate skill to those early interests.

Gianni Colombo's *Spazio Elastico*, a changing construction of string pulled and stretched by motors, distorts perspectives and tugs at the eyeballs, but less successfully than the similar environmental work he made for Venice last year. There are a number of motorised works which play with perception, of a kind which were produced in great numbers in the Sixties. Gerhard von Graevenitz was always one of the most imaginative of these, and his three recent pieces show that he remains impressive, although little development has taken place. In this room of kinetic and geometric work, the English artist Kenneth Martin stands out as a major painter. His superb recent *Chance, Order and Change 1* (15 colours), shown in the first part of the Hayward Annual in London, is one of the best works in the show.

Other British artists include Richard Long, represented by photograph and text works, and Bamish Fulson in a room which also contains work by Marcelle Broodthaers, the Belgian artist who lived for a time in London and whose work is being shown in a small retrospective in Edinburgh which I hope to write about next week.

Rockney is represented by his portrait of Sir David Webster and *Two Deck Chairs*. Calvi, a contrast which shows the artist's much better when painting pictures which evoke the human presence by its absence than in making portraits. The Patrick Caulfield's are well below his best. Caro is showing recent steel sculptures, painted with varnished rust.



to a chocolate brown of the kind which have been shown in London in the last two years or so. R. B. Kijaj has a painting from the recent Marlborough show.

There is a section of assemblages by artists like Daniel Spoerri and Christian Boltanski, remnants of meals and childhood games; but these rather dusty objects seem to have little power of evocation left. Christo's project to wrap the pews of St Stephen's Green, remaining unrealized at the photograph collage stage, seems tame by comparison with his recent, gigantic American schemes. Joseph Beuys's metal sculpture has not the resonance of his contribution to the current *Documenta*.

The picture of European art which emerges from the survey is a somewhat sad one. In this it is probably quite accurate and representative, although even given the limitations of what has been produced in Europe during the past five years it could have been possible to create a more dynamic show. Financial limitations were obviously a problem, and one suspects a jury with totally different ideas of what was important in contemporary art may have been another. For much of the exhibition looks like the result of beginning from entrenched positions. The show which is at the Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, continues until October 30. At the National Museum is a small but superb exhibition of *Early Animal Art in Europe* to

AD 800 organized by Maire de Paor. From the Scythians to the Celts the decorative use of animal motifs in artefacts has an extraordinary vitality that suggests a unity of vision in a diversity of styles.

Also to be seen in Dublin are sensitive works by the young American artist Joel Fisher, now living in London, at the Oliver Dowling Gallery until September 24, and skilful realist works by Robert Balogh at the David Hendricks Gallery until September 10. Michael Farrell's ironic variations on Boucher's *Miss O'Murphy* as a Miss Ireland subjected to many indignities and abuse is at the Dawson Gallery until August 27.

Paul Overly

### Eschenbach Queen Elizabeth Hall

Max Harrison

Perhaps anyone who undertakes Beethoven's last three piano sonatas in sequence, as Christoph Eschenbach did on Sunday, sets himself too many problems for one performance. Partly because the relationship between its two extreme tempi was never fully resolved, the first movement of the Op 109 sonata was unduly slight in its effect. The central very quick movement was too much like a conventional scherzo in feeling. Surely after the excitement of the *Vivace* that ought to ring out as a fiercely concentrated statement?

### Young dancers Old Vic

John Percival

Five dance companies took part in this year's congress of young musicians and performers at Aberdeen. Four of them gave a farewell performance at the Old Vic on Sunday and the fifth, a Zulu troupe, appeared at Chichester.

There is not much point in trying to compare or draw general conclusions about so diverse an assembly. The Johannesburg Youth Ballet was formed specifically to come to Britain for the occasion; there is some promise among its 50 dancers but little real achievement yet, except for the social achievement of mixing black and white dancers.

### Eddie and the Hot Rods Marquee

Richard Williams

A year ago, those who worry about the state of rock music were fretting over its apparent lack of guts and commitment. Where had all that adolescent energy gone? Somewhere, surely, there was an untutored innocent, tolling in obscurity, to produce his generation's equivalent of "My Generation". Pete Townshend's most anthem, the need was pressing, to blow away the cobwebs and the candlefloss. Well, it can be no news to anyone that all this has come to pass, and vitality has returned in full measure, for climbing the nation's pop chart

### Handel at the Wells

The Handel Opera Society will be at Sadler's Wells Theatre for a two-week season from November 2 to November 12. They will present *Acis and Galatea* preceded by the Prologue, in its entirety, to Les

### Showing off to Orff

SNO/Gibson

Usher Hall, Edinburgh

Paul Griffiths

The 1977 Edinburgh Festival opened on Sunday with a mixture of meditation and rejoicing, the combination an appropriate one for a concert commemorating the late Lord Britten. Two of his works were played, three if one counts his arrangement of the National Anthem, and the programme included also two pieces with Britten connections, Walton's *Impromptus*, and the theme from the third movement of his piano concerto, and Arthur Oldham's *Psalms in Time of War*.

In such a context the choice of the *Sinfonia da requiem* as opening work was an obvious one, even if it is not one of the achievements by which Britten will be best remembered. Its virtuosity and its weirdness seemed somehow arbitrary in view of the subject, and all the more so when the score is given the energetic projection brought to it on this occasion by Sir Alexander Gibson and the Scottish National Orchestra. Nor would I list *Phaedra* among Britten's greatest works, even if it does, and did, give Dame Janet Baker the opportunity for a moving portrayal of the heroine in grand distress.

Coming immediately after that work, Walton's jiggling *Improvisations* appeared a bizarre kind of tribute, not very well played, but they were quite outshine in proportion by the new Oldham piece. Oldham has said that he "felt angry that Carl Orff should have expended his immense craftsmanship on the vulgar texts and unexplored thematic material of *Carmina burana*". If his *Psalm in Time of War* is to be taken as an attempt to show Orff the error of his ways, then I have to say that the work contained its own fair share of vulgarity, though not, I hasten to add, in the text, assembled from the Jerusalem Bible versions.

Apart from its uneasy relationship with Orff, the work enjoyed an affair with Walton, developing as a sort of "Carmina Burana" in its supreme cheek-confidence, but that was all; and even that might have come to nought without the fine solo singing of Thomas Allen and the exultant accompaniment of Oldham's own Edinburgh Festival Chorus.

### Academy of St Martin Festival Hall

William Mann

Among Beethoven's more mature orchestral works say from the *Sinfonia da requiem* onwards, that gains much from a numerically small-scale performance is the violin concerto; lyrical, confidential music (think of the subsidiary melodies in all three movements), unwilling to jump a rub even when given in the opening bars, material to do so. In the Festival Hall on Sunday Neville Marriner and his Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields enlarged their numbers to cope with the scoring of the concerto, and then treated the music along the intimately poetic lines suggested above.

Much more orchestral detail was able to be brought out than is usual in a full orchestral account. The Largo starts especially lively, the finale full of spirit; the noisy, trumpeting version of the drum theme was held to a respectable dynamic level, and

so the grand moment of recapitulation sounded the more majestic, though ungraced, as it is of the music's normal tone of voice.

The level of sound may have been dictated by the soloist, Salvatore Accardo, who piled a fine, sweet tone, and a refusal to indulge in musical histrionics (those who have heard him in Paganini or Beethoven's *Kreutzer* Sonata know his mastery of the grand manner). He, evidently, regards Beethoven's violin concerto as a high classical song of love, rather serious even in the Rondo, but never publicly rhetorical. The view was generally illuminating.

Perhaps the acoustics of the hall, in its present form as a ballroom auditorium, restrained available decibels. They were not regretted in an incisive account of Elgar's Introduction and Allegro, nor missed from 12 Country Dances by Beethoven, delightfully breezy. In Handel's *B flat* concerto for two orchestras (the one with *Messiah* allusions), the forward placing of woodwind made the antiphony crisp and invigorating.

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SPORT

Cricket

Botham out of Test: Lever joins the 12

By John Woodcock  
Cricket Correspondent  
Strange though it may seem, Ian Botham has fractured his left foot in an accident by tripping through having bowled so much on it. He has therefore had to withdraw from the England side for the fifth Test match against Australia, starting at the Oval on Thursday. John Lever, of Essex, who played in the first two Tests, has been called in to make the number up to 12.

This is bad news for Botham. Apart from missing the Test match and all that that means, he is out of tomorrow's Gillette Cup semi-final between Somerset and Middlesex at Lord's and will not now have the chance to take 100 first class wickets in the season. With 88 he is nearer to doing so than anyone else.

Botham has bowled 666 first class overs, plus perhaps another 200 in one-day games. In 1950, to make 100, he bowled 1,243 overs in the season. In 1951, Eric Hollis had bowled 1,624, though that was at a slow pace.

Botham was bowled in good, solid, old-fashioned style. He wears what a lot of present day bowlers do, which are almost more like a runner's spikes. It is an exaggeration, they say, to say that he is better than the great things that Botham were. Botham, of course, has also had a lot of batting to do. He is not that far off the double of 1,000 runs and 100 wickets in the season, last achieved by Jimmy Smith in 1957. Although he has played in only two Test matches, Botham has made enough good runs and wickets of them, and showed such engaging enthusiasm, that he will be missed at the Oval.

Whether he will, in fact, play must be doubtful. England are fortunate to have him in reserve—in the Willis, Hendrick, Old and Lever they have better bowlers with fast and fast medium bowlers than for some time—but the balance of the side may be better preserved if he does not play. Botham, however, has been dropped out.

What Gloucestershire want is a finish

By Alan Gibson  
The Gloucestershire, with five first innings wickets in hand, are 80 runs behind Warwickshire.

There had been no play at all on Saturday, and yesterday was for a long time, a gloomy and frustrating one, at least for the Gloucestershire supporters, who turned up—considering the balmy day—in surprisingly large numbers. There was a pause for tea and a drink in the morning, and a brief interval in the middle of the afternoon, but Gloucestershire worked hard at it, when the chance, and if they were to win, the match was improbable, but not totally impossible (but not totally impossible). In the morning, I met my old friend, Puff, the Magic Dragon, who said to me: "Better settle for writing an obituary today, old boy," but he added, with the smallest of smiles creeping into the edge of his solemn, graven, features: "I understand Kent are not having much play either."

Well, we did get some play, and Warwickshire, who bowled out in the 29th over for 139, which gave Gloucestershire four points on the innings and Warwickshire none. The pitch was variable, but not so slow. Warwickshire were fortunate to bat first. The pitch was variable, but not so slow. Warwickshire were fortunate to bat first. The pitch was variable, but not so slow. Warwickshire were fortunate to bat first.

World Student Games



Raymond Smedley (left) who qualified for the 5,000 metres final and Andrea Lynch, winner of the bronze medal for the women's 200 metres in the World Student Games.

Cuban deprived of sprint double

Sofia, Aug. 22.—Silvia Chirva of Cuba won the women's 200 metres in a close finish with Marina Sidorova, of the Soviet Union, at the World Student Games here today. Andrea Lynch of Britain, was third. It was Cuba's fourth gold medal in the track and field events at the first World Student Games. The Cuban team, led by the 100 metres sprinter, Silvia Chirva, won the 200 metres and 400 metres. The Cuban team, led by the 100 metres sprinter, Silvia Chirva, won the 200 metres and 400 metres.

Rowing

FISA president calls for shorter courses

From Jim Railton  
Amsterdam, Aug. 22.—Thomas Keller, a Swiss industrialist and president of the International Federation of Rowing Associations (FISA), has proposed the sport to think about its future with proposals—and some seem preparatory—which at the very least will make delegates sit up and think. He has floated proposals which include a reduction in the number of men's heavyweight events; a reduction in the number of men's lightweight events; a reduction in the number of men's coxed pairs events; a reduction in the number of men's coxed fours events; a reduction in the number of men's coxed eights events; a reduction in the number of men's coxed pairs events; a reduction in the number of men's coxed fours events; a reduction in the number of men's coxed eights events.

Yorkshire batsmen crawl along

BRADFORD: Yorkshire, with one first innings wicket in hand, are 68 runs behind Lancashire.

Yorkshire made painfully slow progress in the Roses match at Bradford. The Lancashire bowlers were given some help on a drying wicket and Yorkshire had to struggle desperately for their runs. An opening batsman, who was not a batsman, was not a batsman. An opening batsman, who was not a batsman, was not a batsman.

Nottinghamshire poised for first victory of season

Nottinghamshire have a good chance of recording their first victory of the season when they play against Lancashire at Trent Bridge today.

Surrey, in a lamentable form, start the last 20 overs of the match with eight wickets in hand. A fine unbeaten 57 by Smedley enabled Nottinghamshire to reach 100 runs in 10 overs. A fine unbeaten 57 by Smedley enabled Nottinghamshire to reach 100 runs in 10 overs. A fine unbeaten 57 by Smedley enabled Nottinghamshire to reach 100 runs in 10 overs.

Results of finals from Sofia

Men's athletics  
100 METRES: 1. A. Swidenbach (USSR), 10.50 sec. 2. A. Swidenbach (USSR), 10.50 sec. 3. A. Swidenbach (USSR), 10.50 sec. 4. A. Swidenbach (USSR), 10.50 sec. 5. A. Swidenbach (USSR), 10.50 sec. 6. A. Swidenbach (USSR), 10.50 sec. 7. A. Swidenbach (USSR), 10.50 sec. 8. A. Swidenbach (USSR), 10.50 sec. 9. A. Swidenbach (USSR), 10.50 sec. 10. A. Swidenbach (USSR), 10.50 sec.

Swimming

East Germans reap their expected golden harvest

Jönköping, Sweden, Aug. 22.—East Germany's women fulfilled their expectations to win the European Swimming Championships here, setting two world records on the way to a harvest of gold.

They underlined their domination of the women's swimming and diving events by winning all three gold medals at stake for the women's 100, 200 and 400 metres. They underlined their domination of the women's swimming and diving events by winning all three gold medals at stake for the women's 100, 200 and 400 metres.

John Player League

Team	W	L	D	Points
Leeds	10	1	1	21
Warwickshire	9	2	1	19
Nottinghamshire	8	3	1	17
Gloucestershire	7	4	1	15
Yorkshire	6	5	1	13
Surrey	5	6	1	11
Derbyshire	4	7	1	9
Essex	3	8	1	7
Northamptonshire	2	9	1	5
Lancashire	1	10	1	3

Nottingham v Surrey

Team	W	L	D	Points
Nottingham	10	1	1	21
Surrey	9	2	1	19
Leeds	8	3	1	17
Warwickshire	7	4	1	15
Nottinghamshire	6	5	1	13
Gloucestershire	5	6	1	11
Yorkshire	4	7	1	9
Surrey	3	8	1	7
Derbyshire	2	9	1	5
Essex	1	10	1	3

Athletics

A welcome British selection in Clover

By Cliff Temple  
Athletics Correspondent  
Four young British medal winners from the European Junior Championships in Donetsk, at the weekend, have been called into the senior team for the international match between Britain and West Germany at Crystal Palace on Saturday.

The men's javelin also shows a welcome selection in Charlie Clover, who many people may have forgotten is not only the United Kingdom national record holder but also the British Commonwealth champion at the event. He won that title in 1974, setting a record of 62.14 metres at the age of only 18, a magnificent example of raw talent and strength. But even at that peak of his relatively short career three years ago he was not himself pretty much to himself in his native Ipswich and was the national record holder for the javelin.

Tennis

Borowiak puts more effort into final set

Toronto, Aug. 22.—Jeffrey Borowiak, of the United States, surprised beat the eighth-seeded John Alexander, of Australia, in the quarter-final of the ATP tennis tournament here today. Borowiak, 22, won in straight sets, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.

Yachting

Tallinn sailing smoothly along to the Games

From Michael Frenchman  
Tallinn, Estonia, Aug. 22.—There has always been a sporting tradition in this fortified, cobbled medieval city which nestles by a natural protected harbour on the Russian Baltic coast. As long ago as five hundred years ago, Tallinn was a centre of sailing races were held here and today the 400,000 Tallinnians, as they call themselves, are already well into the throes of preparing for their biggest championship ever. This will be the 22nd Olympic Games sailing competitions which will take place in August and September of 1980.

No play yesterday

Team	W	L	D	Points
Leeds	10	1	1	21
Warwickshire	9	2	1	19
Nottinghamshire	8	3	1	17
Gloucestershire	7	4	1	15
Yorkshire	6	5	1	13
Surrey	5	6	1	11
Derbyshire	4	7	1	9
Essex	3	8	1	7
Northamptonshire	2	9	1	5
Lancashire	1	10	1	3

Sverige knocks Gretel out of America's Cup

Newport, Rhode Island, Aug. 22.—Sverige (Sweden) beat Gretel II (Australia) by 10 minutes yesterday in the final of the America's Cup. The Swedish boat, skippered by Johnnie Heiksen, won the race in 10 minutes 10 seconds, while the Australian boat, skippered by Johnnie Heiksen, took 20 minutes 10 seconds.

Baseball

For the record

Team	W	L	D	Points
Leeds	10	1	1	21
Warwickshire	9	2	1	19
Nottinghamshire	8	3	1	17
Gloucestershire	7	4	1	15
Yorkshire	6	5	1	13
Surrey	5	6	1	11
Derbyshire	4	7	1	9
Essex	3	8	1	7
Northamptonshire	2	9	1	5
Lancashire	1	10	1	3

Astbury wins title for second year

Andrew Astbury shook off the effects of a pulled shoulder to win the senior 1,500 m. title at the National Age-Group Championships scored by Green Shield, in Bl. pool, yesterday. The 16-year-old high school girl recorded a time of 16.33 minutes, more than a second faster than the previous record of 16.45 minutes set by the same swimmer in 1974.

Schoolgirl lops nine seconds off world record

Mission Viejo, California, Aug. 22.—Alice Brown, of the United States, set the only world record in the 1,500 m. event at the National Age-Group Championships scored by Green Shield, in Bl. pool, yesterday. The 16-year-old high school girl recorded a time of 16.33 minutes, more than a second faster than the previous record of 16.45 minutes set by the same swimmer in 1974.







# Mao's great error was an insistence on revolution: now the people have had enough

## China's years of struggle: will the battle against the Gang of Four be the last?

Just 30 years ago, in the last inflationary days of the Kuomintang government in China, I was on a visit to Peking from Tientsin. I took a pedicab from the station to the end of the "hutong" where the friends I was staying with lived.

I asked the pedicab driver how much. \$30,000, he said. Rubbish! Absolutely absurd! I said; he knew very well that no Chinese would dream of paying so much; they wouldn't pay a dollar more than 10,000 and that was all he would get from me — trying to swindle an ignorant foreigner, indeed! The argument developed and had soon attracted a small Chinese crowd. It seemed easier to turn and appeal to them.

Was not \$10,000 from the station a fair charge, I asked. The expressionless faces never flickered. Would any one of them think of paying more than that? Why should a foreigner be overcharged just because he was a foreigner? The expressionless faces remained absolutely immobile.

To all these appeals for sympathy and support in my just cause there was no response. I was sure they would not pay \$30,000. I repeated, and no doubt, inwardly they agreed. Still, I was getting nowhere in my appeal for justice. Then behind me a quiet voice said: "Give him \$20,000." I crumpled, offered it and walked away.

Of course I had been familiar long before with this Chinese habit, the strong Chinese instinct for compromise. I must not be seen to win; the pedicab driver must not lose face by being defeated. Justice was not the point (of course I had been foolish not to have bargained the fare before ever leaving Peking station); what mattered was a settlement on terms of mutual acquiescence.

Reflecting on that and many similar instances of Chinese dislike of confrontations and their preference for compromise, I have often tried to imagine Chinese feelings in the conditions under which they have lived since 1949.

What changes brought by revolution have they found agreeable, acceptable, bearable or intolerable? Whereabouts did their instincts revolt against what was imposed and, in the event of a change, how would

the great heave of resentment make itself felt?

For those who knew China as one can only know a country by living in it rather than being a visitor, pre-Maoist China, that is, the greatest contrast between observable Chinese instincts and Maoist precepts must surely have been in the opposition of struggle and harmony, between the constant uncertainty and threat posed by "continuing revolution" set against a stability in public life that allowed of the political rectitude that has been natural to the Chinese for centuries.

Against this it must be said that where ritual performance is required of them the Chinese are very obedient and very good actors, giving an impression of total conviction whatever

slogans they are chanting. The necessity of bending to the wind, of never opposing directly the actions of government, is also deeply ingrained in their public behaviour.

What the visitor to China has to puzzle out is when the enthusiasm displayed is mere conformism and when it follows from real conviction. To make the obvious point that it is commonly a mixture of the two only adds to the difficulty of interpreting China.

But leaving aside the boundaries of conviction and conformism in the Chinese mind—do all Chinese make the distinction easily? I have often wondered. I would hazard the opinion that if there is any burden the Chinese have borne during the heat of Maoist revo-

lution from which they long to be relieved it is this burden of continuous "struggle".

Let the struggle against the "gang of four" be the last. These ultra-Maoists were, after all, the proponents of struggle, the believers in cultural revolutions, the spokesmen for absolute revolutionary dedication.

Read the communiqué of the plenary session of the central committee at the end of last month and it is the references to the need to "achieve stability and unity in our country" that ring true, with their nationalist overtones, while the need for "developing the victories of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution" is simply inscribed on the banner that had to be unfurled.

It should not be overstated

that the 30 million members of the Chinese Communist Party can hardly be sharply distinguished by now from the ordinary population—that after the twists and turns of "Hue" that they have to face in the last 15 years. Many of them, too, must be longing for stability and unity and an end to "struggles between two lines".

Of course it must be admitted that the policy of veering from periods of struggle to periods of stability and then back again to struggle was peculiarly Mao's. But in the period from 1974 onwards the struggle became an outright battle between the gang of four, backed by Mao, and almost all the rest

of the party which looked for leadership to Chou En-lai.

In that period the prominence of Chiang Ching and her associates made them a distinctive group. They have served admirably as scapegoats at a time when many of Mao Tse-tung's political initiatives are being quietly dropped. Many of them—since the cultural revolution at least if not since the great leap forward—have been either unemployed or unsuccessful or done more damage than good; often all three.

But in making these changes can China risk any demonstration of the failure in the new movement? Certainly not. China's twentieth century revolution is primarily a nationalist one, by many the Communist Party is seen as the organ that has given effect to its most urgent objectives.

Any nationalist revolution needs a hero, a national hero. Sun Yat-sen, who died 24 years before the People's Republic was proclaimed, could not fill the part. Not only was his death too early; with his English education he was too westernized; besides, his Christianity was not the patronage approval of the western world. For all his virtues he was not a product of the Chinese intellectual tradition.

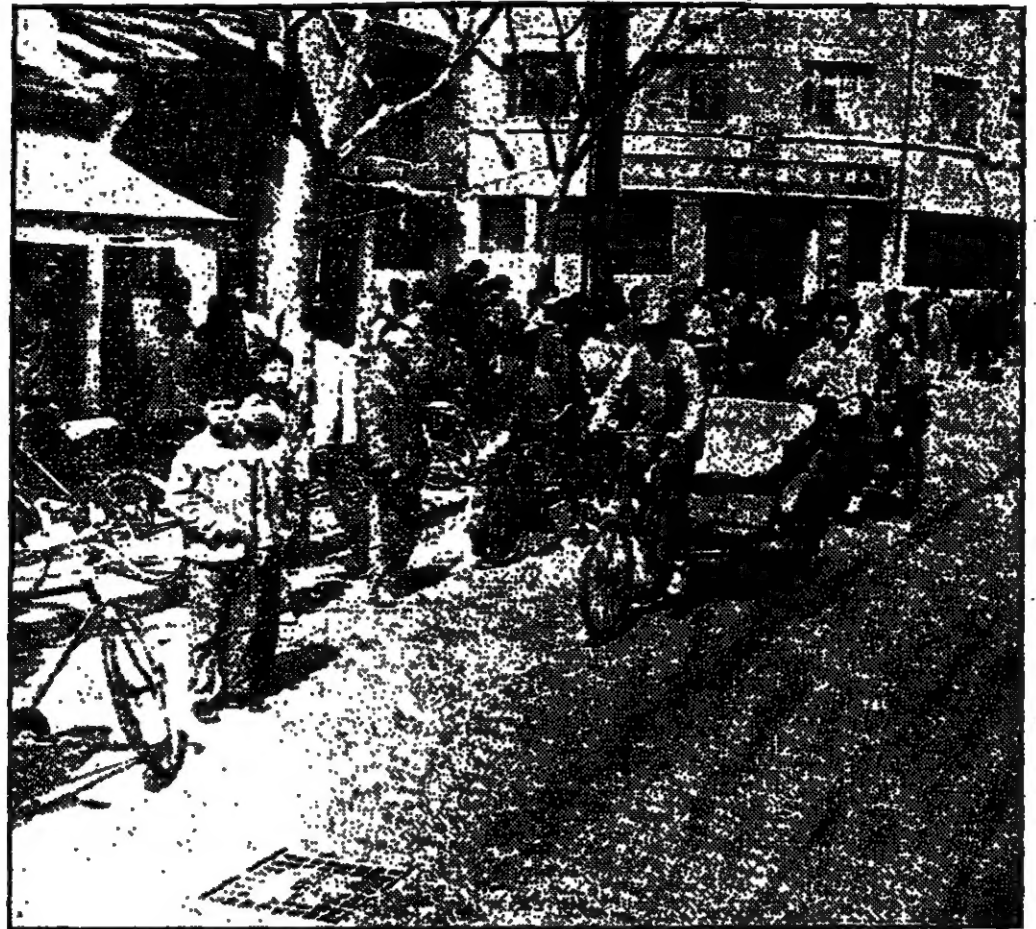
Chiang Kai-shek's failings were different. He was thoroughly Chinese and as proud as Mao. But he could not find his way to a doctrinal answer that met China's needs, nor could he conquer by virtue, as Chinese leaders should; he surrounded himself with third-rate sycophants, and leaned on Shanghai bankers and a vast secret police network. He could never carry the day intellectually or morally.

Mao did, but his faults were latterly grievous, most of all in his tireless insistence on revolutionary struggle. China has had enough of it. The plenary session of the Chinese Communist Party's central committee in July and the eleventh party congress, which ended on August 18 may thus be taken as a real turning point in the Chinese revolution. They mark a rejection of this aspect of Maoism.

Richard Harris

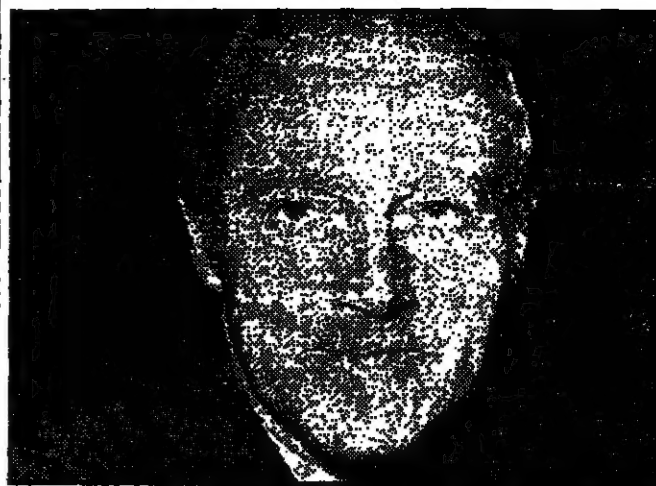


Mao and the Chinese people: what they want now is stability and unity.



## What I would do if I were...

Mike Yarwood



David Bassett (above) writes the third in this series

The trouble with caricature is that your case tends to disappear just as you have perfected your performance. Much is a once and only Prime Minister with heavy shoulders worth once he is returned to the relative anonymity of the back benches? And who cares about the phenomenon, if selective, powers of memory displayed by another past premier?

As Mike Yarwood surveys his stock-in-trade of years, as redundant as a 1974 calendar, he may reflect that the remains of Heath and Wilson he might, at any rate, find some use for a pipe.

If I possessed Mike Yarwood's wonderful talent—and, to be frank, I would have considerable difficulty in mimicking anyone but myself—I think I would be rather less kindly than he is.

I would mount a kind of satirical party political broadcast, with a cast of ministers from our present Government, plus the relevant members of the House of Commons. I would not be able to resist including my elder son. His lateness is notorious not only in the household but throughout the club chicken world. He always has a reason. It is sometimes Mazur, often improbable, invariably true, but necessarily amusing.

He deserves a wider audience. But Ian's excuses would be a private joke, an indulgence that the real Mike Yarwood, as a thoroughgoing professional, would not succumb to. Heading the recognisable cast, naturally, would be the Right Honourable James Callaghan, Prime Minister and estate politician.

Mike Yarwood has got Jim wrong. So has most of the viewing public, thanks, it must be said, to the disguise that our Prime Minister himself has adopted. He is emphatically not Uncle Jim, the benign and slightly world-weary donor of birthday presents. Beneath the avuncular exterior lies one of the toughest—ruthless, even—politicians of our day.

Sometimes he mixes up his public image with the reality that has taken him to the top in politics. I would have him dealing with one of his critics within the party, listening intently as the argument is deployed, and before moving in to crush the opposition prefacing his rejoinder with a misleadingly gentle, "Well, my dear

Dennis Healey would give me an opportunity to dress up. A borrowed wig, the set-up would be appropriate, perhaps, reminding us of his self-awarded TCM—"Tiny Chinese Mind"—which he thinks nearly everyone but himself is out of. Why, I would have him complain, "Should I be forced by the IMF to follow the policies that come perfectly naturally to me anyway?"

Before my audience switches out of boredom to the rival channel, I would wheel out my imitation of Tony Benn. A costume piece again. A Puritan hat to represent the Leveller, an ermine robe—and a labourer's muckless trousers. My Tony Benn would conclude how necessary it was to keep down prices by unnecessarily jacking up the cost of gas. Unemployment, I would have him explain, can only be



Mike Yarwood

tackled by messing up the rubble industry.

I would have to cheat a little once more with Peter Shore. Few viewers would recognize the significance of his T-shirt bearing a golden snail's head. But Peter and I would instantly recognize—as would Bill Rodgers—the emblem of Quarry Bank school, Liverpool, which we all attended.

However, the old boy network would not minimize my Mike Yarwood version of the Secretary of the Environment. Here we have a socialist who proudly measures the success of his creed by the proportion of the GNP devoted to public expenditure. And here we have the pragmatist willing to reduce in public spending, even at the expense of deteriorating services to the public and unemployment among those who work in those services.

And with Tony Benn, my Peter Shore would deliver a little homily on democracy with his theme the bizarre notion that when it comes to the European Parliament, the British people should be disempowered by the privilege of democratic participation confined only to members of the House of Commons. But my Peter Shore would use up his lot of rehearsal time. It's choice—a long way from Liverpool.

Some thought would need to be given to the future of the act. Should I start rehearsing Dr Owen and Roy Hattersley? Lack of time may preclude their inclusion in the act, although I would not miss the notable characteristic of semi-cabinet ministers. Besides what they have said and do—said and done that is struck satirical comment would require some research. As to the shadow cabinet—be generous. Every man a woman jack of them would find a place in my act—if I could recall their names, their policies.

But trade union leaders? Out. Quite apart from the fact that retirement is removing Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon from the scene as inevitably defeat and resignation overtake them. And Wilson, the Mike Yarwood has not tackled me.

Apart from which we're so boring.

David Bassett

The author is general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers' Union.

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## Devolution: new proposals but the crucial flaws remain

As one essential ingredient of the Government's Westminster pact with the Liberal Party, the Prime Minister has undertaken to reintroduce devolution legislation for Scotland and Wales in the next session of Parliament.

A few days before the Commons rose for the summer recess, the Government announced a number of proposed changes to their original Bill which had suffered such a humiliating defeat on the floor of the House.

Most of the Government's new proposals—which had long been pressed upon them by members on both sides—are improvements on that ill-conceived Bill but they do not go anywhere near far enough.

For example, if one is going to set off down the path of executive and legislative devolution there is much to be said for the method adopted in the Government of Ireland Act in which it was the powers to be reserved that were listed rather than those to be devolved.

However, the central flaw with which the Government has failed to come to terms is still that of the roles and numbers of Scottish and Welsh MPs after devolution. It was on the equivalent issue that the original Irish Home Rule Bills failed, and this more than any other single issue convinced the House of Commons that last session's Scotland and Wales Bill was unworkable.

The reason for the Government's reticence is clear: the problems are virtually insur-

mountable. Once a Scottish Assembly is established with its own executive and legislative powers, then there will be wide areas of legislation and administration (such as education and housing) on which Scottish MPs will be unable to vote in so far as they affect Scotland but will be able to vote in so far as they affect England. Under the Government's present scheme Wales will be different yet again.

While it is true that such an anomaly existed in relation to Northern Ireland under Stormont, an anomaly that was only partly ameliorated by a reduction in her MPs, nevertheless what is acceptable as a special case in respect of 12 MPs is rather different from what is acceptable in the case of 107. A situation could arise in which Scotland could vote for and get a Socialist housing policy, whereas England could vote for a Conservative housing policy but get a Socialist one because the Socialists had a majority through their Scots and Welsh MPs.

There are only a limited number of ways in which to meet this problem.

The number of Scots and Welsh MPs could be reduced to parity with England, from 71 to 56 for Scotland and 36 to 31 for Wales. That would remove the additional representation, but it would not overcome the essential problem. In any case Scotland and Wales are over-represented for well accepted reasons. Both are a long way from the centre of government and both con-

tain large tracts of sparsely populated terrain that would lead to geographically huge constituencies if there were the same average electorate as is found in England. In any case it could be argued that if Scotland and Wales needed extra MPs to look after economic and foreign affairs and defence before devolution they would still be needed afterwards.

Some have proposed that Scots and Welsh MPs could simply refrain from voting on matters which have been devolved and which therefore at Westminster relate solely to England. Apart from the difficulty of the differences between Scottish and Welsh issues, with Welsh MPs able to vote on legislation but not on executive matters, there are a number of weighty objections.

It would appear to be an impossible manner of conducting Parliamentary business. The United Kingdom Government, for some of the time the United Kingdom Government, could lose its majority through the absence of its Scots and Welsh supporters, so that the concept of ministerial responsibility would collapse. No minister could be expected to carry out policies he did not believe in, or be criticized for not pursuing policies he did believe in but for which the Government had no majority. The prospect of a Socialist United Kingdom Government with a majority committed to a Socialist policy being unable to get through its policy for England against an English Conservative majority,

and the English Conservative majority unable to pursue its policies because legislation involving expenditure has to be sanctioned by the Government is nonsensical.

Apart from that, there would be the problem of determining which questions were purely English. Would that be a matter of partisan decision on each occasion? In any case, in the absence of completely separate tax-raising powers in England and Wales, the Government would be a common United Kingdom tax-raising responsibility. Any proposal to increase expenditure in England, though by virtue of the block budget not in Scotland, could involve an increase in taxes throughout the United Kingdom, a matter of legitimate concern to Scots and Welsh MPs. Clearly, this is a recipe for chaos.

These problems arise because the Government's proposals fly in the face of principle. They govern any sound constitution: that every citizen must be related in the same way to those who govern him at each level of power and authority. Every part of the United Kingdom should be governed on similar lines. Scotland cannot be part of a quasi-federal United Kingdom and England part of a unitary United Kingdom.

Implicit in the suggestion that Scots should be excluded from certain votes is the recognition that after devolution there would be certain exclusive English or Anglo-Welsh issues. Those who propose the

"in and out" system described above are in fact proposing an English Assembly in embryonic form. However, the only way such a system could be adopted would be if an English or Anglo-Welsh Assembly were created, either separately elected or based on MPs in the House of Commons. In either case it would need to have the same powers as the Scottish Assembly, its own executive based on the party strengths in England, and to be funded in the same way. Then all United Kingdom MPs would have equal responsibility in all matters for their constituents.

I am not actively proposing such a solution, merely recognizing that if a Scottish Assembly with executive and legislative powers were set up and if England were not prepared to accept the anomaly of Scottish MPs being able to vote on English matters, then this is the only arrangement that could work. The fact has to be faced, however, that so far the English have shown no desire for such a system.

The other option is to establish for Scotland an Assembly with advisory and inquisitorial powers of the kind outlined in the Douglas-Home report. While that would be able to call to account the executive, the administration and public bodies and could have a role in legislation, in the absence of executive, financial and legislative powers it would not remove any responsibilities from Westminster MPs: they would continue to have the same powers for all parts of

the United Kingdom, though in Scotland there would be another body to assist them.

Thus the options are limited. There can be a Scottish Assembly with limited but important powers, in which case the number and role of Scots MPs will not be affected. There can be a Scottish Assembly with executive and legislative powers and similar bodies in England and Wales possibly based on Westminster MPs, so that again the number and role of Scots MPs will be the same as in other parts of the United Kingdom. There can be a Scottish assembly as above but without the equivalent in England, with English acceptance of the anomaly of Scots MPs voting on English matters.

The trouble is that the Government prefers this last option but it has failed to argue the case through while those who oppose it have not been prepared to face up to the implications.

Given the dissatisfaction of the Commons with the Government's choice, and the recognition of the desire for an Assembly in Scotland, but not in England and Wales, this is a central reason why it would be better to approach the whole issue on an all-party basis. Then we could see all the implications of the options available, and that in itself would be a positive contribution to arriving at the right decision.

Francis Pym

The author is Conservative MP for Cambridgeshire.

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## THE TIMES DIARY/PHS

### Back to the desert with the Auk

The biography of Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, who has claimed in the past 35 years that he did not receive his full share of credit for winning the first battle of el-Alamein, is to be published next month by Hare-Davis MacGibbon. It is likely to be a controversial book.

The author of *The Auk—Auchinleck Victor at Alamein*, Roger Parkinson, argues the case that it was Auchinleck's victory in July, 1942, that enabled Montgomery to win the second (and famous) battle of el-Alamein in October/November of that year.

He describes "the painful relationship" between Churchill and Auchinleck, who was then the successor to Wavell as Commander in Chief in the Middle East. The relationship was at its lowest ebb in August, 1942, when the Auk had saved Egypt by halting Rommel's invasion (although his counter attacks had not driven the German tanks back).

### Churchill arrived in Cairo

to review the situation. Auchinleck insisted on postponing the resumption of the offensive until September so that his new forces could be properly acclimatized and trained for desert warfare. Impatient of the delay, Churchill removed the Auk from his command and gave the post to Alexander. The command of the 8th Army was transferred eventually to Montgomery.

Paradoxically, Monty postponed the resumption of the offensive even longer than Auchinleck had desired before, on October 23, 1942 at 10 pm he launched his infantry attack at el-Alamein. Sir Claude, who is now 93, lives in Morocco.

Any play advertising itself as "creating traditional precepts of theatre by escaping a new, aggressively humorous idiom" is begging for trouble if it falls short of its intention. And when it says, additionally, that its plot—three women investigating their sexuality—"extends far beyond the commercial compromise of previous women's plays" the imagination is ignited (like a forest fire). The claims are made by the Cambridge University Mummies who are putting on nine plays—on the fringe—at the Edinburgh Festival, from last night to September 3. The play that has especially

### Troublesome tale's happy landing

My lack of authority as a writer on aerobatics cannot have escaped your notice.

Last week, I corrected an earlier statement I made crediting Squadron Commander Dunning with the distinction of being the first man to bring an aircraft down on the deck of a ship at sea. Glenn Curtiss was our 1910 pioneer, I said, quoting what seemed at the time to be an impeccable source.

Louis S. Casey is curator of the aerospace collection of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. In the current

edition of the skillfully produced *Naval Aircraft 1914-1939* (Phoenix 95p), he describes how Eugene Ely, a Curtiss demonstration pilot, made history. Mr Ely, in a Curtiss Model D biplane, took off from the cruiser Birmingham on November 14, 1910. He completed the daredevil enterprise by landing (in a Curtiss D 1V Military) on the deck of the cruiser Pennsylvania on January 18, 1911.

### Best cellar is up for sale

When Christie's wine department open their new season next month, the attention of all—including American connoisseurs on \$4,000 package tours—will centre on the last remaining bottle of the world's most expensive wine.

The Lafite 1808 may fetch as much as £10,000. Yet, for probably a fraction of that, collectors who can still see further than the wine in the glass may have something even more poignant.

This is the original cellar-book from which Professor George Sainsbury wrote his *Notes on a Cellar-book* which revolutionized English penmanship in 1920.

Sainsbury was his age's greatest wine scholar and the cellar-book fastidiously notes, in longhand, all his purchases and consumption from 1884 to 1915.

The book is being sold by one member of the exclusive Sainsbury Club, Michael Broadbent, of Christie's, on behalf of another, who remains anonymous.

### Gold is where you leave it

With the arrival in South Africa of some of the world's best Rugby players for the international match at Pretoria this weekend, sports yards are dominating conversation in pubs there, I am told.

One of them is about the 1972 Springbok tour of Britain. The captain was Dawie de Villiers, then a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church, and towards the end of the tour, the team was invited to a banquet at Guildhall by the Lord Mayor.

As the players took their places in the banquet hall, with its solid gold table settings, Mr de Villiers, mindful of the team's penchant for collecting souvenirs, asked if he could say grace.

The Lord Mayor thought it

### Black letter day

Charles Nissen was just when he started dealing foreign stamps. His first

chance was a parcel of letters written by famous people he sold to their relatives at a time. His first sale was Lord Rothschild.

The London Company with Nissen founded in 1894 taken over yesterday by S. Jey Gibbons for £861,000. Nissen's stock includes baby the world's finest collection of Penny Blacks.

All We Want is Freedom, an East German film made for the Magabe-Nkomo Patriotic Front and now showing in London, has some of an ecstatic rally in Salisbury. But a colleague recently back from Rhodesia, has identified the rally as a pro-Mugabe one. And the bishop, as you know, is condemned by Messrs Mugabe and Nkomo as a lackey without any popular support. What helped by colleague finally to identify the rally were posters saying "One Man. One Vote", the campaign slogan of the Mugabe faction.

### Two American women in Westminster Abbey

One says to the other: "Is this place open on Sundays, do you suppose?"

Today's true tourist tale: Two American women in Westminster Abbey. One says to the other: "Is this place open on Sundays, do you suppose?"

Today's true tourist tale: Two American women in Westminster Abbey. One says to the other: "Is this place open on Sundays, do you suppose?"

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## THE RIGHT ANSWER AT HEATHROW

If ministers have sprung with perceptible gusto into resolute attitudes over the airport strike, that is partly because the dispute is well fitted in several ways, from their point of view, to be the new season's first skirmish. It may seem cruel to say it when thousands of travellers may be about to have their holidays ruined, but a strike of air traffic control assistants is a blow that will not bring the nation to its knees. Nor is the spectacle of 850 workers exploiting a Bank Holiday and their own key position to disappoint so many innocent customers calculated to evoke much sympathy either from the wider public. The strike is a petty and opportunistic one, and there is too much bound up in its outcome for the Government to be easily shaken.

Of course an almost complete suspension of air services in Britain would do far more than keep holidaymakers from the sun. International freight and business travel would be disrupted, in addition to the loss of revenue to the aviation industry itself. But there are other lines of communication, and as yet the strike is only planned to be of limited duration. One of its most unfortunate effects would be to divert painfully to foreign travellers (including the tourists whose custom is becoming increasingly valuable to us) that the British sickness is still endemic.

In other ways the dispute is

less well-suited for a test of strength. The traffic control staff insist with some justice that it is not about a pay claim at all, but about a settlement. A productivity agreement was reached with the Civil Aviation Authority in 1975, but pay controls were brought in before it could be implemented. Now that formal restraints are at an end, they want the agreement to be honoured. It involves increases of between 13 and 17 per cent, backdated (as originally agreed) to January 1975. In the Government's eyes these large payments, on top of a phase two award made earlier this year, would breach both of the residual controls whose influence it hopes to maintain—the 10 per cent limit and the twelve-month gap.

However, Mr Len Murray has declared that the claim infringes neither of the rules that are understood by the TUC. An incomes policy based on an understanding rather than a formal bargain is bound to lead to differences of interpretation. It would obviously be wise not to alienate the TUC at the outset, if possible. The Government itself has indicated that it would not oppose genuine productivity deals going beyond the general restrictions. If new agreements may pass as exceptions, is it fair that a deal should be disqualified because its implementation has already been delayed for more than two years? That question cannot be answered without taking account of the conse-

quences for incomes policy as a whole. They depend on the number of directly comparable cases that may exist, and also on the likely effect of resistance or compromise on other trade unionists—something that is related to their assessments of ministerial pliability as well as the merits of the case.

There are probably not many frozen settlements of exactly the same kind as this one. But even a unique, much-publicized case can have an effect on the level of expectations. Agreements in mid-1975, in the scramble before controls were imposed, were made in an unrealistic atmosphere which greatly contributed to the difficulties that the country is still suffering from. That cannot justify repudiating them altogether, but it is legitimate for the Government to resist their implementation until the difficulties are under better control. There should certainly be no question of backdating the payments to the original date: that would be a sure way of inviting everybody to reach for all that they have forgone in the last two years. In the crucial first months after the end of formal controls, the need to prevent a momentum of soaring claims must override all else: the air traffic control staff should be allowed to enjoy the fruits of their old settlement when it is safe for them to do so, but not yet, and most certainly not as a reward for Bank Holiday blackmail.

## HERR BRANDT BOTHERED BY THE RIGHT

A West German journalist recently described how, on seeing a motorcyclist with a waskita on his helmet speeding down the Autobahn, he began discussing with his French assessors whether a neo-Nazi revival was taking place in West Germany. At the next petrol station they discovered that the outh was British. Some months later the journalist realized that it was probably not even a rightist Nazi but a "punk" rider. Nothing very much is roved by this except that lost young people in any country can be attracted by Nazi symbols, and the sensitivity is obviously a past and because there are ill unregenerate representatives of that past who keep the right alive. Does this justify the worry expressed by Herr Brandt in his letter to the Chancellor? Not quite, but he is trying to say something that should be heard.

Herr Brandt's worry is a not unreasonably about the manifestations of neo-Nazi activity, which technically everyone recognizes as very marginal and totally insignificant in electoral terms. He is more worried about the imbalance shown by the authorities in dealing with it, for they tend to be far less severe of similar activity on the left. Herr Brandt has a special interest in putting a protective arm around the non-violent left because he does not want the disaffected left wing of his own party to break away, but he is right also for other reasons to draw attention to the trend.

The political mood in West Germany has shifted to the right in recent years for a variety of reasons. The end of assured economic growth has made people less secure. So has the rapid change in social values. Fears of communist or left-wing governments taking over in Italy and France removed another prop from the familiar landscape, and the violence of the left-wing terrorist groups is felt as a threat to internal security. Probably the very rapid rise in the number and influence of civic action groups has also contributed to the feeling that the established political institutions are no longer effective. One of the results is public pressure for sterner law enforcement and for often excessive vigilance in trying to prevent radicals entering public service.

The main danger of this tendency is not to the mainstream of politics, which is still dominated—and likely to remain dominated—by a fairly moderate consensus. The danger is of increasing disaffection and polarization on the fringes. Right-wing groups begin to feel they enjoy the silent endorsement of the population as well as the blind eye of some authorities—mainly at the local level. This in turn can lead to frustration on the left, which begins to feel even more firmly excluded from normal political debate. Polarization can become socially and politically disruptive and have an increasingly unsettling effect on the political centre. Herr Brandt may be wrong to suggest that neo-Nazism is more important than it really is, but he is right to press for a more even-handed approach to the extremes of left and right.

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## Signs of global changes in climate

From Dr John Gribbin  
Sir, In her discussion of the Met office annual report, Sue Reid (article August 19) cites the comment from that source that the recent sequence of record breaking droughts in England and Wales can be expected to occur only once in 500 years. Putting this another way, the argument seems to be that, assuming we are not experiencing a climatic shift, the odds against our recent weather pattern are 500 to 1. If a 500 to 1 outsider were to win the Derby racing men might suspect something fishy, the occurrence of a 500 to 1 outsider showing up in the weather is equally suspicious, and more sophisticated statistical tests can confirm that something odd is indeed going on in climatic terms.

Non-mathematical language, the argument runs something as follows. If we have a working hypothesis (in this case, that the climate is not changing) and some sequence of events occurs which deviates significantly from the pattern of that hypothesis, it may well be that, rather than bleeding a "special case" we should think seriously about changing our hypothesis. When it is recalled that many students of the vagaries of climate were drawing attention to a global shift in weather patterns even before the events of the past two years, it surely becomes very difficult to retain any longer the hypothesis that climate is not changing. With the corollary that recent troubles mark a "once in 500 years" freak.

The test of any scientific hypothesis must be its use to forecast the outcome of experiments, whether natural or man-made, so perhaps it may be excused for pointing out that one of the few "forecasts" that the Spring drought of 1976 was likely to set worse before it got better was made by myself, in these columns, on April 30 last year. In the same spirit, I am sure that climate is shifting in the direction remarked on in your Leader of August 19 enables us to make the further prediction that we can expect extreme weather conditions of all kinds in Britain in the next few years. More droughts and floods; severe winters and some very hot summers. And all this without taking account of any harmful influence of mankind's activities on climate.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN GRIBBIN,  
University of Sussex Science Policy Research Unit,  
Mantell Building,  
Falmer,  
Brighton,  
August 19.

## Freedom to march

From the Chairman of the National Front

Sir, Two items in your August 19 issue cannot be allowed to go unchallenged. Firstly, Mr John Mendelson, in his article on page 12, conjures up "organizers of the National Front" who have "openly admitted that they are going into parts of cities and towns with a high percentage of immigrants to tell them 'to get out'". I know of no such "organizer" of our party who has made such a statement; perhaps Mr Mendelson would provide me with his name. In fact we do not go to such areas to tell immigrants anything; we go to address ourselves to whites who are badly affected by the consequences of the Government's multi-racial policies.

Nonetheless, with this Mr Mendelson claims to have spoken to a National Front member who said, on the occasion of the Lewisham march, "I am here for a punch up", and cites this as having been acknowledged by this and other members as the second main reason "for their presence."

Just like that! How convenient for Mr Mendelson that he is not required to produce these "members" to substantiate what he claims they said. I dare say I could write a long paper and say that I have travelled up to Penzance where I understand Mr Mendelson is the local MP, and met members of his constituency Labour Party who had come to Lewisham, on their own admission, "for a punch up" and that they were ready to print my claims? I would not criticize you if you were not.

This does not deter Mr Mendelson, however. This information, to which apparently he is the only witness, "proves that the National Front organizers deliberately ordered their supporters... into Lewisham to provoke violence and to create conditions of political violence". Not satisfied with this, he goes on to say that our purpose in going to Lewisham was "to intimidate—physically members of the immigrant population to frighten them into leaving the country".

This is downright rubbish, and it should not be too difficult to recognize it, as such if you have seen the TV film reports of the fracas. Better still, if you witnessed the fracas first hand. The true fact is that large numbers of immigrants, whipped up into a frenzy by a few unscrupulous, politically motivated agitators (most of whom were white) together with other whites, went down to Lewisham in an attempt to physically beat up the members of the National Front, who included many women, youngsters and elderly people—the exact reverse of what Mr Mendelson claims.

## Signs of global changes in climate

From Dr P. D. Buisseret  
Sir, Yesterday evening following the BBC television news there happened something which I have seen before and have often been puzzled by. A snap of the British Isles is shown with the country divided by lines into two or three segments, each segment giving a different forecast for that particular area. It seems to me that the differences are sometimes so marginal as to be imperceptible.

For instance we are told that while one portion of the country will expect sunny periods with occasional showers, another may look forward to sunny spells with isolated outbreaks of rain, and a third is likely to get rain at times with sunny intervals.

Can anyone tell us what the differences are between sunny spells, sunny periods and sunny intervals; likewise occasional showers, outbreaks of rain and rain at times?

Yours faithfully,  
P. D. BUISSERET,  
Department of Medicine,  
Royal Free Medical School,  
London Bridge, SE1,  
August 17.

## The way the wind blows

From Bishop Kenneth Healey  
Sir, It was, I think, in 1911—a year to remember, anyhow, and not least for the day (August 9) when the thermometer registered 100 deg F in the shade—that a school friend lent me a geography manual by the prestigious Professor Metcalf.

In this was told that the southwest wind prevailed over Britain for three hundred days, on average, each year. For the next few years I kept count of the days on which Nature defied the professor, and having proved him wrong for long enough to satisfy myself that the climate was changing or that the professor's observations were made on the south-west coast, I accepted the fact that "averages" are of no practical value to the weather watcher.

Figures, however, are always interesting. On how many days of 1977 so far has the wind blown from the south-west? Our impression here is that for the last six months it has come from an arc between NE and SE. Has anybody kept count?

Yours faithfully,  
K. HEALEY,  
Little Needham,  
Gedney Dyke,  
Spalding,  
Lincolnshire,  
August 17.

Let me now come to the letter from Lord Duncan-Sandys, published two days earlier, which in one paragraph states that "freedom of speech and freedom of assembly" must be preserved as part of democratic liberty but that it should not necessarily include the right to march through streets.

The inference of this seems to be that it is marches that are provocative of trouble, though not ordinary meetings in halls or public places such as Trafalgar Square. Well, Lord Duncan-Sandys might have thought twice about this had he been at Ladywood with me the following evening, where left-wing hooliganism of a type no different to that of Lewisham was directed at this time at an indoor meeting.

This is not all. Even our private and internal meetings have been attacked in the same way by red mobs. The truth is that it is our mere political existence, and not where particularly we manifest our views, that constitutes the "provocation" to the extreme left.

It is of course very easy for politicians whose parties have regular access to the mass media to state their views to decry the use of marches and demonstrations in the streets by others who do not have this sort of access. To us, such public demonstrations are one of the few ways we have to gain a hearing. Is your paper willing to commission one of the leaders of the National Front to state our case in its columns? Are any leading national papers thus willing? If so, we could consider changes in our present emphasis on street action.

## Nuclear security and civil liberties

From Mr Paul Sieghart  
Sir, The Secretary of the UK Atomic Energy Authority (August 12) draws attention to two documents not published until after I wrote the article for the *sluice* of the International Commission of Jurists which Roger Berthoud summarized in your issue of August 2. They are the White Paper Nuclear Power and the Environment, and a Department of Energy press notice of June 2 entitled "Long-Term Security of Nuclear Power". I must confess that I cannot find much in either of these documents to assuage the worries to which my articles were addressed.

The White Paper, in the first passage which Mr Seaby quotes, rightly points out that it is not the availability of plutonium alone, but its conjunction with the prevalence of terrorism, that dictates the degree of security surveillance which must be carried on within a nuclear society. But, of those two necessary causes, one at least is still under our control. We may not be able to reduce the number of determined terrorists in the world, but it is within our power not to multiply the quantities of plutonium, which is an entirely man-made substance. When you know that there are curbstains about, is it wise to accelerate the manufacture of butchers' knives?

The other passage from the White Paper which Mr Seaby quotes can only say that the availability of plutonium will be "severely restricted", and the risk of successful terrorist action "reduced". Even there, the cost of security will have to be taken into account. When the consequences of such terrorism are so dire as these, it is small reassurance to be told that such an event will not happen more often than we can afford.

The passages which Mr Seaby quotes from the press notice do even less to allay our concern. We are told that there will be much positive vetting (in which the subject concerned has the opportunity of answering or explaining any matters which may cast doubt on his loyalty or integrity). But what of negative vetting, which goes on without the subject's knowledge, where he is raised about him, and which is carried out on a far larger scale because it is so much cheaper?

Yours faithfully,  
PAUL SIEGHART,  
Joint Chairman,  
Executive Committee,  
Justice (British Section of the International Commission of Jurists),  
2 Clements Inn,  
Strand, WC2,  
August 17.

the already constant bickering between the member countries. The British public, who have become more disenchanted with our membership of the Common Market than they are today—the latest opinion poll gives 53 per cent against membership.

One can understand why the Commission is so passionately in favour of a directly elected Assembly because they will then regard it as "their Parliament" and will increasingly ignore the national parliaments.

The real answer to the whole question of the Common Market is surely to recognize that the Treaty of Rome itself is an outdated document which will become unmanageable if Greece, Spain and Portugal join. We should restart the whole process of keeping the good and rejecting the impractical and have a new treaty based on cooperation between a wider grouping of nation states without any prearranged pretences.

The European Assembly (unelected) could be merged with the Council of Europe and the Commission converted into the coordinating Secretariat of the Council of Ministers.

To continue clinging to the outdated concept of the Treaty of Rome in this fast changing world is unworthy of responsible and progressive political leadership which genuinely desires European unity.

Yours sincerely,  
NEIL MARTEN,  
House of Commons,  
August 19.

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A similar nonsense has been made for Scotland. The entire area of the Highlands in one county—Highland, whereas counties are now Districts.

There are, I know, many people in these areas who share Mrs Wood's indignation, but, alas, as with many things these days, the people who are most concerned are the least likely to do anything about it. It comes to bureaucratic expediency.

Yours faithfully,  
MOUNTGARRET,  
Wyvis,  
Evanston,  
Ross-shire.

Year of the hoverfly  
From Mr George Hill  
Sir, Perhaps I can trace a little further the movements of the hoverflies that Mr Britton (August 17) saw on the south coast flying north. There was a plague of them here in Aldeburgh until just a day or two after he wrote (also of the aphids that they feed on).

Then they decided to fly out to sea. The south coast flying north. There were hoverflies struggling on the surface every yard or so: I walked 400 yards along the beach and found dying insects at the water's edge all the way, about 30 of them to a foot—about as many individuals as the current edition of "Crockford's". Almost all were hoverflies, though I saw a few bumble bees and other insects; only the ladybirds made any determined effort to resist their fate.

The odd thing was that the wind had been blowing offshore all day, so that they must have set off out to sea, not been carried out accidentally. Since then hoverflies have not been a problem, though one still sees a few.

Yours, etc.,  
GEORGE HILL,  
Tamarisk,  
Crabbe Street,  
Aldeburgh, Suffolk.

## Son governors

From Mr Graham Zelikoff  
I am puzzled by Mr Abalom's letter (August 13) in which he comments on the "allegations against son governors" made in my article on August 9. My article was about, and did not refer to, son governors; and the nearest thing to an allegation appeared in the last paragraph, where I spoke of a contempt for the law and its "kisses", but this was clearly said, not at prison governors, but at those responsible for policy. I must say, though, that Mr Abalom's comment on access to lawyers in the courts, presuming to speak a majority of prisoners, is as if an example as any of that which I referred to.

Yours faithfully,  
ARAM ZELIKOFF,  
10 Mary College,  
End Road, E1.

## Respecting champagne

From B. E. Caulton  
Sir, Am I alone in deploring this childish habit of Grand Prix racing drivers (and now even winners of cricket matches) of shaking up their bottles of champagne so that half the contents go out over all and sundry? Presumably these vandals are all beer drinkers.

Yours faithfully,  
B. E. CAULTON,  
Willow Brook,  
Hedge Lane,  
Pyle,  
Shepton Mallet,  
Somerset.

## Spread of kissing

From Mrs Betty Naggar  
Sir, Re Mrs Jane Gordon's letter (August 13) the agreeable act of frequent kissing will only cease if there is an epidemic. I once lived in a country where handshakes on meeting and parting every time one met the same people during the day was the norm—until cholera broke out. Then it stopped.

Yours faithfully,  
BETTY NAGGAR,  
12 Ovington Mews, SW3.

## Work for school-leavers

From Lord Walton  
Sir, Much of the countryside today is disfigured by dead elms, and it is probable that during the months ahead their numbers will increase. Not only is the cost of cutting down these trees very high, but there is a severe shortage of labour to carry out the job.

At the same time as the elms are dying we have well over 600,000 young men and women who have just left school and who are unable to find jobs. It surely must be possible for the Department of Employment, the Forestry Commission and perhaps the Central Landowners Association to devise a means by which some of these school-leavers can perform this useful service.

The Forestry Commission and some private landowners should be able to provide a nucleus of skilled tree-fellers who could instruct and supervise the young people, many of whom would be delighted to find work, especially in the fresh air and of manifest environmental and public value. If the owners of the trees were charged the cost, including the provision of skilled labour,

## Where in the world?

From Mr Barry Winkelman  
Sir, Mr C. J. Saville-Glanville (letter, Aug 16) is wrong about the *Times Atlas* I'm afraid. It is not produced in England for the English. Its major part, the maps, are produced in Scotland and the major sale is overseas. The domestic English market is buoyant but is nowhere near large enough to support the immense costs involved in the *Atlas*'s production. The *Times Atlas* was sold without its international sale and that in turn would be severely reduced were our place-name policy too narrowly national. But, in fact, we are far from being extremists in this area: we know of no other atlas that has Gaelic for all its names in Ireland.

The *Times Atlas* uses more English names for provinces and cities in areas using non-Roman scripts (such as China and the Arab countries) and English transcription systems for the lesser known names is the case with many other English atlases.

Yours sincerely,  
BARRY WINKELMAN,  
Times Books,  
18 Ogle Street, W1.

## Colour in the census

From Mr Ivor Frank  
Sir, Can anyone help me out of the frying pan without landing me in the fire? Mr Redfern of the Census office (August 18) wants to add the question "Are you white?" or "Are you Negro or black?" or "some such adaptation of that" to the 1981 census. I am a light brown man. I cannot tick the "black" box. My father is Nigerian but my mother Irish so I cannot tick the "Negro" box. If I refuse to complete the census I will break the law. Equally if I complete it I will be uttering a false document. What should I do to obey the wise laws of my country?

Yours sincerely,  
IVOR FRANK,  
95 Gower Street, WC1.

## County boundaries

From Lord Mountgarret  
Sir, Mrs Woods (August 5) is not alone in her rightful indignation in the treatment of Bristol at the

hands of the bureaucrats. Rutland has disappeared completely. Berkshire has lost its White Horse and Yorkshire is a mere figure of its former self. The three Ridings which had existed for over 1,000 years disappeared overnight to be replaced partly by such figments of imagination as counties such as Cleveland and North Humberside.

A similar nonsense has been made for Scotland. The entire area of the Highlands in one county—Highland, whereas counties are now Districts.

There are, I know, many people in these areas who share Mrs Wood's indignation, but, alas, as with many things these days, the people who are most concerned are the least likely to do anything about it. It comes to bureaucratic expediency.

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## COURT CIRCULAR

**RAIMORAL CASTLE**  
August 22: Lady Susan Smith has succeeded the Lady Susan Huxley as Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

### Birthdays today

Dr Carl Dolmetsch, 66; Sir Arthur Forde, 77; Sir William Gorell Barnes, 68; Sir George Elphinstone, 74; Sir Samuel Bankole-Jones, 66; Lord Kissin, 65; Brigadier C. Langley, 80; Sir Kenneth Murray, 80; Sir William Primrose, 73; Sir John Wrothelie Russell, 63; Dr Roy Strong, 42; Sir Brian Young, 55.

### Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Captain J. M. H. Cox, ADC, Royal Navy, to be promoted rear-admiral on January 7, 1978, and to be Chief of Staff to Commander-in-Chief Naval Command in November in the acting rank of rear-admiral in succession to Rear-Admiral T. H. E. Bate. Mr Richard Wilkins has been appointed officer of the Association of Christian Teachers.

### Today's engagements

Exhibition: Pictures from eighteenth-century Venice, National Gallery, 10-6.  
Exhibition: Fabergé, Victoria and Albert Museum, 10-6.  
Early Music Centre Festival, with displays of sixteenth-century instruments, books and music, Wigmore Hall, 7-9.  
Walk: Ghosts of the City: meet St Paul's station, 7.30.

### Royal engagements

The following engagements for the Prince of Wales for September have been announced from Buckingham Palace:  
10: 9.45 am, South Wales Motor Show, Aberystwyth, 3.30 pm, chairman, attends rugby football match between British Lions and Barbarians at Twickenham in aid of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal; midnight, attends gala performance of Jubilee at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, in aid of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal and the Combined Theatrical Charities Appeals Council.  
12: 11.45 am, opens International Exhibition and Digital Exhibition at National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham; 7.20 pm, as chairman, attends a concert given by English National Opera at the Coliseum in aid of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal.  
24: as Colonel-in-Chief, presents new Colours to 4th (V) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales, at Parc Howard, Llanelli.

### Duke to visit Canada

The Duke of Edinburgh is to visit Canada and Jamaica in November. He will attend the conference of the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth as president, arriving in Regina, Saskatchewan, on November 20. He will be in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on November 29 and 30.

## Village life 1: Decline brings anger rather than sentimentality Crisis where the cottage gardens bloom

A warning that maintaining the thatch and tending the honeysuckle round the cottage door is not enough to keep the English village alive was made recently by the Council for the Protection of Rural England. The Norfolk village of Hardingham is one community that meets nearly all the criteria the CPRE applies in designating the decline of country life. Michael Horsnell went there to ask: Is the village dying?

If the English village is dying, its old body is resting at Hardingham, where the roses are blooming in cottage gardens as they have done for generations.

But if once they grew as a testimony to the spirit and tranquillity of country life they serve better now as a memorial to it.

A scattered community of 97 households lying in the green fields between Dereham and Wymondham, in mid-Norfolk, Hardingham is possibly facing its greatest crisis since the Black Death wiped out its earliest Christian settlers.

The cottages and greenhouses made their last journey to St George's churchyard long before the memories of the youngest villagers. And country lanes that once echoed their heavy boots on cherty mornings now hum with the machinery of an agricultural revolution that has torn down the hedgerows and driven men from the fields.

The population has declined from over 500 between the wars to fewer than 300 today, and while 30 per cent of the menfolk were employed on the land in the village's heyday, now only 12 are working at the seven farms that were once its lifeblood: one man for each 200 acres.

In the village there is little of the sentimentality about the end of an era that is often found among townspople. But in its place there is growing anger and frustration about the way the authorities have encouraged its decline.

No one is quite sure how the rot set in, but the past decade has seen a chronicle of cuts in the services that once kept Hardingham thriving.

The station, once noisy with the clatter of milk churns bound for London, was the first to go. A subsidized bus ran daily through the village between Dereham and Wymondham as a replacement, but that too gave up the ghost after 18 months.

### Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. R. H. Billinghurst and Miss M. M. Pemberton. The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr and Mrs R. H. Billinghurst, of Erith, Kent, and Madeline, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. C. Pemberton, of Sevenoaks, Kent.

Mr C. J. Burlington and Miss T. K. Lund. The engagement is announced between Colin, younger son of Mr and Mrs W. Burlington, and the late Mrs Marion Burlington, of Cheam, Surrey, and daughter of Mr and Mrs Ralph W. Lund, of Oxshott, Surrey, and CPO Box 1441, Tokyo, Japan.

Mr J. A. Corrie and Miss O. P. Cook. The engagement is announced between John Alexander, eldest son of the late Mr Robin Morton Corrie, and of Mrs Barbara Corrie, of Sydney, New South Wales, and Olivia Penelope, only daughter of the late Mr Cecil Babstone Cook, and of Mrs Penelope Cook, of Bishops, London, Surrey.

Mr G. S. Gilbert and Miss F. A. Mytton. The engagement is announced between Gray, son of Major-General and Mrs G. C. A. Gilbert, of Riverside House, Haversham, Hertfordshire, and Fiona, daughter of the late Major B. H. Mytton and of Mrs Brock House, Edgmont, Banbury.

Mr A. D. N. Mullineux and Miss M. B. Bolt. The engagement is announced between Alastair David Maclean, son of the late Mr F. A. Mullineux and of Mrs Mullineux, of Highlands Heath, Putney Heath, London, SW15, and Mary Beatrice, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. D. Holt, of Pembury House, Shepton Montague, Wincanton, Somerset.

Mr J. M. V. Rayer and Miss A. L. T. Freeman. The engagement is announced between Jeremy Mark, younger son of Mr and Mrs S. V. Rayer, of Muswell Hill, London, and Andrea Leonora Tricey, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A. D. Freeman, of Slchester, Hampshire.

Mr A. G. Silver and Miss N. M. Cree. The engagement is announced between Alan Geoffrey, son of Mr and Mrs L. P. Silver, of Bishops, London, Surrey, and Nicola Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. R. Cree, of Soberton, Hampshire.

## Holdings retain Four Stars bridge trophy

By Our Bridge Correspondent  
A record entry of 900 players in 215 teams competed at Brighton last weekend for the Four Stars trophy, the main event of the 10-day summer congress organized by the English Bridge Union.

The holders, J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys and A. Woo, retained the trophy, outplaying the rest of the field to win by a record margin of 40 victory points. Results:  
Four Stars: J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 40; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 39; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 38; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 37; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 36; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 35; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 34; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 33; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 32; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 31; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 30; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 29; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 28; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 27; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 26; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 25; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 24; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 23; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 22; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 21; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 20; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 19; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 18; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 17; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 16; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 15; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 14; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 13; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 12; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 11; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 10; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 9; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 8; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 7; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 6; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 5; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 4; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 3; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 2; J. Reardon, A. M. C. Thompson, K. Loveys, A. Woo, 1.

Although the EEC has recently indicated that financial assistance towards a Channel tunnel would be considered if the British and French governments made approaches, the threat no longer looms large and the board has felt able to



A rainy welcome at Warsaw airport for the Shah of Iran (right) and Empress Farah (centre) from the Polish party leader and Mrs Gierek. Report, page 5.

## Dover gets ready for expansion

By Geoffrey Browning

As the holiday season reaches its peak the port of Dover, the busiest in Britain for handling passenger traffic, appears to be coping well. Last year seven million passengers and a million vehicles passed through the port and figures for this year are expected to be 6 per cent or 7 per cent higher.

Foreigners attracted by the favourable exchange rate heavily outweigh British holidaymakers who appear to have been daunted by steeply rising costs of ferrying their cars and families across the Channel for a continental holiday.

At peak periods 60,000 passengers and more than 12,000 vehicles travel through Dover. In the town traffic congestion was eased by the opening in February of the Jubilee Way flyover, which links the busy A2 road from Canterbury with the entrance of the eastern docks ferry terminal.

As most drivers aim for London, townspeople say there are delays only when weather interferes with sailings and the tightly drawn schedules.

Dover Harbour Board, the statutory body formed in 1806 which administers the port, is confident that it can cope with the passenger traffic, which is expected to top 10 million a year by the end of the decade.

Although the EEC has recently indicated that financial assistance towards a Channel tunnel would be considered if the British and French governments made approaches, the threat no longer looms large and the board has felt able to

press ahead with new investment projects.

An £8m development to provide new hovercraft facilities at the western docks is nearing completion and the berths will be used by the new French "Jumbo" hovercraft when they come into operation.

Work is proceeding on a £1m extension for a new passenger lounge and administrative buildings at eastern docks. Towards the end of the year work is expected to start on a £12m project to reclaim 10 acres of land and expand drive-on ferry installations.

During the peak season higher ferry rates are charged at weekends and the board acknowledges that more people prefer to travel during the week and that this makes for smoother operations. Harbour board police are responsible for marshalling vehicles and complaints from the public average fewer than one a week.

Services from Dover run to Boulogne, Calais, Dunkirk, Ostend and Zeebrugge, and are provided by Sealink, Townsend Thoresen, and now P and O Normandy Ferries, which commenced crossings last year. At eastern docks there are four general purpose ferry berths in addition to the Seaspeed hovercraft berth.

The AA and RAC motoring organizations, with offices at Dover, are unanimous in their praise of the way the harbour board run the port. Mr Leslie Trimming, RAC manager of the Kent ports, said: "Considering the volume of vehicles entering and leaving Dover, the board do a good job. I have not had a

single complaint from a member this year."

Difficulties arose only when people underestimated their travelling time and failed to comply with the requirement to check in 45 minutes before embarkation.

A spokesman for the AA said they had not heard of any complaints, but said there were occasional delays to foreigners, who underwent more detailed processing by immigration and customs officials.

Some Britons returning from holiday have been heard to complain of rigorous examinations in the customs hall when they consider they are treated more informally when passing through Continental frontiers.

The Department of Customs and Excise pointed out that it was responsible for preventing the introduction of rabies to Britain and checks had to be more severe than on the Continent, where rabies already existed.

There have been cases where people, particularly those with caravans, think it is the worst thing in the world to have to leave their dog for a week," a spokesman said. British customs was also concerned with goods attracting revenue, drugs and other contraband. That meant that caravans and motorized caravans had to be closely scrutinized.

"Our officials will make the on-the-spot checks they consider necessary. At certain times it might appear to the public that more vehicles are stopped than at other times. We act on information received."

## Ministry in sight of exterminating coupy from crops

By Hugh Clayton

More than forty years after coupy were brought to England to produce fur coats the Government has spent well over £1m on protecting crops from them. The coupy, a large rat-like rodent from South America, has been hit by a virus which has killed it in the laboratory. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is in sight of exterminating the coupy.

After 12 years of trapping, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is in sight of exterminating the coupy. The Ministry introduced its ultimate weapon, a committee.

Mr Strang, Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry, said: "I have been having a hard time to examine the problems of controlling coupy over the longer term. I am sure that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is in sight of exterminating the coupy."

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## OBITUARY

### MR REX CONNOR

## Former Australian Energy Minister

Mr Rex Connor, who was the Australian Minister for Minerals and Energy from 1973 until his resignation from Mr Gough Whitlam's cabinet in October 1975 over allegations that he was involved in attempts to negotiate vast loans from Arab countries, died in Canberra yesterday. He was thought to be 70.

Ronald Francis Xavier Cunningham was one of the veteran members of the Australian Labour Party and had served as a Member of the South Wales Legislative Assembly before going into national politics. In the national parliament he represented the constituency of Cunningham NSW, from 1953 and when Mr Whitlam's Labour Party took office in 1972 he soon became a key figure in the cabinet. He dominated the important sphere of minerals and energy in

Australia earning himself the nickname of "The Stranger" because of his tough manner and his uncompromising opposition to multinational mining and oil concerns in Australia. But he was forced to resign from Whitlam's cabinet as a result of his attempt to raise loans of \$44,000 million (\$2,500 million) from the oil rich countries of the Middle East, to help develop Australia's oil-rich mineral and energy resources. The negotiations foundered when it was revealed that they had been conducted through channels which bypassed the treasury and the official loans council.

Mr Whitlam told parliament he had been misled by Mr Connor and the minister resigned. But the affair triggered off a political crisis which soon enveloped the Prime Minister, who was himself dismissed by the Governor General, Sir John Kerr, a month later.

Mr Connor was born in 1907 in the town of Goulburn, New South Wales. He was educated at the University of Sydney and worked in law at Yale University, continued to combat Federalist sentiment in America, and apparently made an abortive attempt to reach an understanding with General de Gaulle in 1943, however, he was in Algeria, where the Radical Party nominated him as one of its four representatives in the Constitutive Assembly, which was dissolved after the liberation of the capital.

In March, 1944, he went to Moscow in order to negotiate for the recognition of the de Gaulle government. His record during the years before 1939 made him in many ways an obvious choice for this mission, although his differences of opinion with de Gaulle had persisted. During debates in the Chamber in June, 1945, they found vigorous expression, and in the upshot Cot found himself increasingly at odds with members of his own party, who were particularly critical of his lack of vision. In the long run, he was formally expelled from the Socialist Radical force.

He continued to sit in the Assembly as an Independent, siding with the Communists on various issues. He was a recipient of the Stalin Peace Prize. His son, Jean-Pierre, is one of the current leaders of the French Socialist Party.

REAR-ADMIRAL DANNREUTHER  
B.L. writes:  
Your obituary of Rear-Admiral Dannreuther rightly concentrates on his distinguished naval career. But it omits what is surely the more extraordinary part of his life, which is that he was, through the force of his own personality, a man who was able to bring together the worlds of the sea and the land.

His father, Professor Edward Dannreuther, was a noted scholar and one of the most distinguished of the early 20th-century scholars. His father's death, which was a great blow to him, was a great blow to him. His father's death, which was a great blow to him, was a great blow to him.

DR RICHARD SAYCE  
Dr Robert Shackleton, Bodley's Librarian, writes:  
The obituary notice of Richard Sayce spoke of his outstanding contributions to the study of French literature and of his vivid personality. A word should be added about his progress in the field of historical bibliography. He strongly took the view that the study of literature should not be separated from that of the history of the book.

His private library, built up over the years, was remarkable and contained particularly precious editions of French seventeenth-century poets. He made himself an expert in the techniques of book production and towards the end of his life was preparing a bibliography of editions of Molière. He was prominent in the Bibliographical Society, with Oxford, and was for some years a scrupulous and efficient editor of the Library. His own article on local typographical practices was a most distinguished and original piece of research. Bibliographers as well as specialists in French literature, mourn him deeply.

SIR GEORGE JESSEL  
Sir George Jessel, Bt, MC, died suddenly on August 18 at the age of 86.  
In 1958 he was High Sheriff of Kent. He was chairman of the Bournemouth and District Water Company and life president of Imperial Continental Gas Association.

The elder son of the first Baroness, he was born on May 23, 1891, at the education of Eton and Balliol College, Oxford. He saw distinguished service in The Buffs in the First World War, in which he won a Military Cross, was mentioned in despatches, and severely wounded. He succeeded his father in 1928.

He married in 1923, Muriel, daughter of Colonel W. C. Lin, VC, and widow of Major F. S. Swetnam. They had one son. His wife died in 1948 and he married secondly Elizabeth, Lady Russell, of Liverpool, daughter of Dr David Lewis OBE. He is succeeded by his son, Mr Charles John Jessel.

Science report  
Astronomy: Cellulose in space  
It is a big step to assume that formaldehyde molecules, have combined to form cellulose in interstellar clouds but it is possible to look for direct evidence of the presence of these molecules.

The information is available in the form of a spectrum of infrared wavelengths with the properties of cellulose-like materials at those wavelengths. The information is available in the form of a spectrum of infrared wavelengths with the properties of cellulose-like materials at those wavelengths.

Measurements of interstellar material at infrared wavelengths are very difficult. The radiation is detected by instruments that are essentially incredibly sensitive thermometers that can be used above the absorbing atmosphere of the Earth. During the past few years a number of measurements have been made from balloons and rockets, and the results show that the interstellar dust appears to absorb infrared radiation strongly at two particular wavelengths. These wavelengths correspond to the infrared properties of water, ice and magnesium silicate, materials that are found in meteorites, and that have been accepted as a reasonable explanation for the material in interstellar space. But there are difficulties with this theory, which is unable to explain the detailed observations on all the infrared sources.

By Nature-Times News Service. Source: Nature, August 18, 1977. (Vol. 268, p. 610).  
© Nature-Times News Service 1977.



Hardingham station, once busy with the clatter of milk churns.

In 1972, just 10 years after celebrating its centenary, the village school was closed, and busying became a daily feature for the 18 children aged five to 11 who were the last to fill classrooms built for three times their number.

Church services meanwhile declined, with the loss of a resident parson to about two a month, and Hardingham is now part of an arbitrary conjunction of seven small parishes.

Then on June 25 this year came the final straw, and one that later drew very comment as the Post Office announced nearly 1400m profits. Hardingham's tiny post office was closed because it was "no longer economical to run".

Now many of the 39 old age pensioners—about one in seven of the population—are forced to ask friends and neighbours with cars to collect their pensions from other villages.

The loss of so many services, together with the submission of man to machine in recent years, is turning Hardingham into a kind of dormitory in the fields for the industrial and leisure attractions of Norwich and other towns.

For a village trying to bring itself to terms with a changing world and find a new identity, however, its most significant loss is a curious one. On May 28, Sir Bartle Edwards, CVO, MC, aged 86, the last of his generation of country gentlemen, died at Hardingham Hall after shepherding the village through decades of change outside and in.

The old feudal system has died hard in Hardingham. Although the so-called golden age of the English village under the rule of the beneficent squire has been dismissed as a myth, in Hardingham it is said to have been something of a reality.

A large congregation attended his memorial and thanksgiving service on June 2 and people departed saying that things would never be the same. Although the age of the tied cottage had virtually disappeared in his lifetime, villagers continued to hold him in the sort of respect that used to accompany the squire's power.

A vice-chancellor of Norfolk for 19 years and former chairman of the county council, he had a reputation for moving

with the times and was closely involved in the village's struggle to save its Post Office.

The Rev David Rye, a vicar in the Barnham Broom group of parishes, which includes Hardingham, told me: "Of all the villages in the group Hardingham is still in the last century because it was under a benevolent squire. Where you still have a figure at the centre the status quo is preserved. Sir Bartle was enormously looked up to."

"Villagers often give an outward appearance of respect and admiration. At Hardingham they have lost a lot. There is nothing left now that serves as a focal point. But there is a tremendous vitality about villages when they are threatened by something drastic."

Mr Rex Wilson, former country cricketer and retired railway worker, told me: "Under Sir Bartle this was a feudal village. This means it was an anachronism, of course. There was even a kind of hierarchy. But there is nothing to take its place. The village is dying, and we are suffering a great loss that saddens me."

Next: Changing ways.

### Latest wills

Miss Dorothy Shevell, Cooper, of New Milton, 282, 574. After personal and other bequests she left the residue equally between the Japan Evangelical Band, Leadenhall, Evangelical Mission, the Bible Churchmen's Missionary Society. Other estates include (not before probate): Mrs. J. H. Kennedy, Sir Derrick Edward de Vere, of Radcliffe, co. Dublin, former, estate in England, Wales and abroad; Rev. Canon J. H. Hill, Professor Archibald V. Hill, FRS, of Cambridge, scientist, who shared the Nobel Prize for physiology and medicine, £27,139.

## Young people take part in environment festival

From Our Correspondent

Aldershot  
Hundreds of young people from all over the county gathered at Aldershot for the annual "Environment Festival". The festival, which was organized by the Aldershot Youth Festival of Hope, was held at the Aldershot Racecourse. The festival was a success, with many young people taking part in various activities, including a quiz, a dance, and a sports day. The festival was held on the Aldershot Racecourse, which was transformed into a festival ground. The festival was a success, with many young people taking part in various activities, including a quiz, a dance, and a sports day.

Mr. Michael Riddell, one of the organizers, said: "The festival was a success, with many young people taking part in various activities, including a quiz, a dance, and a sports day. The festival was held on the Aldershot Racecourse, which was transformed into a festival ground. The festival was a success, with many young people taking part in various activities, including a quiz, a dance, and a sports day."

Mr. David Smith, whose exploits include running across the Sahara Desert and parachuting into Mount Fuji in Japan, will lead talks.

Mr. Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, will be leading talks and Mr. Pender, who was responsible for the television programmes, Domesdaywatch and Survivors, will take part in discussions.

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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

Italy under the burden of huge company debt, page 14

### Leyland truck and bus group offers 'significant' rises for productivity

Edward Townsend  
British Leyland's truck and bus group has drawn up proposals for a pay and productivity scheme covering its 10,000 Lancashire and South workers which, the company said yesterday, would adhere to the government's guidelines.

The productivity schemes, which Leyland has emphasized would be self-financing, are designed to "supplement" the "basic" pay increases for a group of employees. The proposals follow more wide-ranging wage reforms proposed by the government.

Discussions on the truck and bus group's plans began at factory level yesterday. The company said the schemes would be accepted by a number of changes in working practices, including increasing production efficiency and reducing manufacturing costs.

In the sensitive issue of pay, the company said it was unlikely that the many "serious" and "paralytic" proposals could be resolved through the machinery of the government's pay review body.

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### New offer by Lucas after peace talks fail

Clifford Webb  
Afterwards Mr Terry Duffy, Midlands national executive member of the AUEW said: "The company has made a further offer which will be in the order of 10 per cent. This is a significant improvement on the offer made last night after long talks to try to settle the seven week old Lucas toolmaker's strike which is crippling the motor industry."

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### Albino says its guidelines

James News Staff  
The Albino Group, which manufactures breakfast foods and cereals, is to meet the Department of Employment officials tomorrow to discuss pay rises with nearly a third of its 2,200 staff.

The company would not comment on reports that it was offering a 20 per cent rise to its 2,200 staff.

The company would not comment on reports that it was offering a 20 per cent rise to its 2,200 staff.

### Lay-off of 4,000 Cammell Laird workers threatened

By Peter Hall  
More than 4,000 shipyard workers employed by Cammell Laird Shipbuilders on Merseyside, who face the prospect of being laid off today because of a dispute involving four men, were told yesterday that the future of shipbuilding on the river was at stake.

Yesterday 60 strikers who were under construction were dismissed by the company for refusing to return to work after talks at the end of last week. The management opened the yard for normal working yesterday morning.

So far the dispute has cost the company about £375,000, and there had been hopes after last week's talks with officials of the Merseyside Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions that a return to normal working would be possible after the company agreed to substitute the dismissal of the four men with suspension orders.

The suspensions were to remain in force until an appeals committee had heard the cases. The men were dismissed for being absent from work without permission on July 13.

A strike by other strikers followed, and led to the laying off of the company's 4,300 labour force.

### More US banks boost prime lending rate

From Frank Vogl  
Washington, Aug 22  
Most of America's largest commercial banks have now followed the lead set by Citicorp, of New York, last Friday, and increased their prime lending rate to 7 per cent from 6 1/2 per cent. Those who raised their prime rate today included the Bank of America, the First National Bank of Chicago, the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, the Chase Manhattan Bank, Chemical Bank, Irving Trust and European American Bank.

The prime rate boost brings most short-term rates into line with the increase in the rate for Federal funds by about 1 per cent over the past four weeks. The big exception, however, is the Federal Reserve Board's discount rate, which at 5 1/2 per cent is still well below the levels of all other short-term rates today.

An increase in the discount rate in the near future is widely expected in the money markets. Such an increase would be seen as symbolizing the Fed's intention of maintaining money policies somewhat tighter than those that have prevailed for most of this year.

Pressure is mounting for the Fed to raise its discount rate. There is evidence that an increasing number of banks are using the discount window in view of the low Fed discount rate. In the last statement week the volume of bank borrowing at the discount window totalled \$900m (about \$100m), compared with a volume of \$150m in the July 13 statement week.

The Fed was in the money market today draining reserves at a Fed funds rate of 5 1/2 per cent, and this is being taken as a further indication of determination to stabilize short-term rates around current levels. It does not appear on the basis of recent actions in the market that the Fed has changed its funds target level since August 5.

Misuses of the Fed's open market committee, just published, show that the committee decided on July 27 to raise its funds target level from 5 1/2 per cent to a range of 5 1/2 to 5 3/4 per cent and that on August 5 it changed this modestly to a range of 5 1/2 to 6 per cent.

In late July the staff economists at the Fed stated that real gross national product growth was likely to slow in the second half of this year and that a further slow-down was likely in 1978. The economists also noted that inflation was likely to moderate in the next few months, but it would still remain at a high level.

These views tended to influence governors of the Fed to agree to a slight tightening of credit policies, although three governors voiced opposition to this and suggested that a more substantial tightening was needed in view of the continuing high inflation, the substantial money supply expansion seen over the last quarter and the weakness of the dollar in the foreign exchange markets.

Deficit rises: The United States second quarter budget deficit measured on a national income and product account basis grew by \$1,800m to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$48,600m, the Commerce Department said. This compared with a \$38,800m deficit for the first quarter and a \$55,900m deficit for the fourth quarter of 1976, Reuters reports.

Receipts, which had risen \$20,400m in the first quarter, gained \$6,000m in the second quarter to an annual rate of \$379,900m.

Expenditures rose \$7,800m to \$411,500m. They had risen \$3,300m in the first quarter.

Purchases of goods and services accounted for \$143,600m of that, up from \$136,300m the previous quarter and \$134,200m in the fourth quarter of 1976.

### Co-op fights back with price cuts up to 20pc

The Co-op, one of the biggest casualties of the price-war being fought between the big grocery multiples, is battling to regain market share losses. Swinging price cuts have been made on a range of branded, own-label and fresh food products to win shoppers during the important August Bank Holiday period.

The price discounts, some amounting to more than 20 per cent, are being backed by a new "Cuts that count" advertising slogan to supplement the "Your Caring Shopping Co-op" theme first introduced in May.

The new slogan will appear extensively in national newspapers and on television between now and September 3.

While not revealing the sum allocated, a CVS spokesman said last night that advertising expenditure had been boosted to give a "major initiative".

Products selected for special reductions include Friary butter, down to 19p per half lb, and over-ready chickens at 35p per lb as well as Co-op 99 brand rice.

The Co-op, which holds more than 20 per cent of total retail sales, precipitated an across-the-board reduction in tea prices earlier this month when retail prices were hovering about the 30p per quarter pound mark. On top of a reduction to 25p, it has added an advertising coupon discount of 6p per half pound, bringing the price down to 22p.

The cuts are the Co-op's answer to the price war which followed Tesco's shopping of Green Shield trading stamps.

In the ensuing seven weeks Tesco's share of grocery sales has been steadily climbing at the expense of competitors, including the Co-op.

AGB's research compiled by the Co-op shows that Tesco's share of total grocery sales has risen to 11.8 per cent average in the four weeks to July 23 from 7.9 per cent in May.

AGB's research figures for the Co-op during the same period also indicate a decline from 18.9 per cent in May to 14.7 per cent by July.

Other retailers, particularly the unaffiliated independents have also lost ground, as did Sainsbury's which is gradually climbing back after an industrial dispute disrupted supplies, but the indications are that the Co-op has suffered most.

While not disputing the research figures, the Co-op says that factors other than the price war have contributed to a slip in sales during the last 12 months. With more than 12,000 retail grocery outlets making it by far the nation's largest food trader the Co-op has suffered from general economic conditions such as high unemployment, loss of overtime earnings, and pay controls.

For the three years until the end of 1976 it was enjoying an increasing share of trade, but growth slackened considerably early in 1977.

Patricia Tisdall

### Bonn silent on plans for economy

From Peter Norman  
Bonn, Aug 22  
Herr Schmidt, West German Chancellor, today made no reference to his ministerial holiday home at Langwedel in north Germany, presumably to discuss the moves available to the Government in efforts to stimulate the economy and combat unemployment.

But the federal press office in Bonn declined all comment on the talks between the Chancellor and Dr Hans Apel, his Finance Minister, Dr Herbert Ehrenberg, Minister for Labour and Social Affairs, and Herr Karl Ravens, Housing Minister.

Although the Bonn Government has imposed a news blackout on its internal discussions over West Germany's future economic strategy, it cannot complain about being short of outside advice. By now virtually every pressure group in the country has voiced its own recommendations, thus adding to the general air of confusion overhauling German economic life.

Confusion and uncertainty are already having the predicted negative effect on the German economy as businesses throughout the country are putting off investment decisions until formally presented with the Government's plans. The decisions are due to be taken by the Cabinet on September 14.

This is a serious time-table which has been determined by the need to win over the coalition parties for any eventual plans. The Government might have already been criticized within the ranks of the Administration.

### OFT looks at ready-mix groups

By Malcolm Brown  
Mr Gordon Borrie, Director of Fair Trading, is considering whether to go to the Restrictive Practices Court with evidence of a series of price rings covering the ready-mix concrete industry in Buckinghamshire, Wales, Yorkshire and the city of York.

Details of alleged price rigging agreements in these areas have been placed on the register of the Office of Fair Trading.

The first, which ran from March, 1972, to April, 1977, in the Newport Pagnell and Milton Keynes areas involved six companies: Mixconcrete, Ready Mix Concrete (Transite), Amey Roadstone Corporation, Topmix, Hartigan Ready Mix and Steelcity Minerals.

A second, which covered the Welsh areas of Pembrokeshire, Tenby and Narberth, ran from July, 1971, until April, 1977, and involved Mixconcrete and F. H. Gilman.

In the Yorkshire towns of Halifax, Huddersfield, Brighouse, four companies—Mixconcrete, Steelcity, Minacrete, and Ready Mix Concrete (Yorkshire)—are said to have a third ring.

Finally, Mixconcrete, Concrete Services and Ready Mix Concrete (Yorkshire) supposedly entered into an agreement covering York. Both the latter ran from an undetermined date in 1970 until April, 1977.

The agreements allegedly all followed the same pattern. The companies used to decide which should win forthcoming contracts, the allocation being made on the basis of the number of truck mixers each had in operation.

At such meetings, when it had been decided who should win, the favoured company would arrange to tender at a price known to be lower than that of the others.



Mr Gordon Borrie: Considering whether to go to Restrictive Practices Court.

### Floating rate issues by two towns

By John Whitmore  
Financial Correspondent  
Two more local authorities, the metropolitan boroughs of Dudley and Oldham, have followed the recent example of the city of Bristol and are issuing stocks with a floating rate of interest.

Unlike the Bristol issue, however, the coupon is not to be tied to Treasury Bill Rate. It will be linked to six-month LIBOR (the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate for sterling deposits) and the coupon will be offered 1 per cent over this rate with interest payable half-yearly in arrears. The initial yield at par will be 8.1875 per cent.

The idea of linking the coupon to an interbank rate rather than the Treasury Bill Rate is to allow investors, particularly the deposit-taking institutions at which the stock is principally aimed, a more precise idea of the cost of financing holdings of the new money.

Treasury Bill Rate does not offer any more than a rough guide to the cost of money. But an investing institution, such as a bank, which can borrow at six-month LIBOR to finance its holding of stock, will know with certainty that provided it is consistently able to match its maturities, it is assured of a 1 per cent gross margin.

A second novel feature of the issue—each £10m with the stocks maturing in 1982—is the way they are being introduced. Although the stocks will be open to public offer, with application lists opening and closing on Thursday, both issues have already been taken up by merchant banks.

A number of other institutions have, however, agreed to purchase part of the stock from Morgan Grenfell if there is no demand at Thursday's public offering.

The main attraction in issuing floating rate stock at present is that it is very much cheaper to service than a conventional fixed rate stock—so long, that is, as the yield curve remains as steep as over recent months.

### Second oil search west of Shetland

By Roger Viole  
Energy Correspondent  
Another offshore oil exploration group led by Phillips Petroleum is to start drilling in the deep waters west of Shetland after British Petroleum's success in the area.

Phillips, which leads a consortium of Petroleum, Agip, Century Power and Light, Ukrainian and BEI, has signed a contract with the Atlantic Drilling Company for a semi-submersible rig to drill a well on block 205/23. It has an option to return the rig for a second well in the area.

The new drilling location is on the edge of the continental shelf in about 40 miles south-west of the BP discovery.

The Department of Energy has appointed consultants to investigate two different proposals for bringing oil ashore from Mesa Petroleum's Beatrice field in the Moray Firth. An environmental impact study commissioned by the company said it would find no reason why local fishing interests would be better served by a pipeline to that shelf.

Harlow, Ewbank and the Associates Certification group will study the proposed offshore loading system for the Beatrice and Williams-Murray wells on the pipeline option.

### £20m PO orders for System X placed

The Post Office has placed £20m worth of telecommunications contracts with three British companies—GEC, Plessey and Standard Telephones and Cables—for the next stage of development of the so-called System X, the new generation of all electronic exchange and transmission equipment.

The corporation said yesterday that some 800 engineers were already working on the system, whose development was expected to cost more than £100m.

Such high costs were justified, the Post Office said, by the large supply programme expected in the next two decades and by the boost the new system would give to exports.

### ICFC cash injection for Frizzell Group

Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation is injecting £2m into Frizzell Group as a result of which its present 16 per cent stake in the insurance broking concern will rise to 44 per cent.

ICFC, the venture capital arm of Finance for Industry, is providing around £2m of new equity, which will go towards expanding Frizzell's existing business, mainly overseas. The other £1m will enable existing shareholders, chiefly among the family, to realize part of the investment. As a result the family's control will drop from 70 to roughly 50 per cent.

ICFC's stake is much bigger than usual—up till now it has injected no more than £500,000 into a Frizzell Group—because it will make Frizzell into an associated company.

Financial Editor, page 14

### Turnover of motor trades up by 19 pc

Total turnover of the motor trades in the United Kingdom in the second quarter of this year was up by 19 per cent on the same period of 1976, according to latest figures from the Department of Trade.

### In brief

On the same comparison, new vehicle sales and other sales and repairs, which include sales of petrol, oil, tyres, spares and receipts from servicing and repairs, each rose by 19 per cent and used vehicles sales by 16 per cent.

### Construction orders of £713m in June

Britain's builders won construction orders worth £713m in June. According to the Department of the Environment, new building contracts for the second quarter of 1977 were 7 per cent up on the first quarter of the year, but 13 per cent down on the second quarter of 1976.

New orders in the public housing sector for the second quarter were up 24 per cent on the previous quarter, but down 26 per cent on the corresponding quarter in 1976.

For the same periods of comparison, private housing orders were up 15 per cent and down 15 per cent respectively.

### £7m Guyana order for Reed and Mallik

Reed and Mallik, a member of the Rush and Tompkins Group, has been awarded a contract worth about £7m in Guyana.

Known as the Tapakuna Irrigation Project Contract No. 1, the work will provide drainage and irrigation on the Essequibo coast of Guyana, some 60 miles north of Georgetown.

Existing drainage and irrigation is to be improved by the provision of pumping stations to augment the present sea sluice drainage discharge system by the enlargement of some of the existing drains and by the addition of control structures.

### Anglo-International Investment Trust Ltd.

#### INTERIM STATEMENT

**Revenue for Half-Year Increased**  
Revenue after expenses but before tax for the six months ended 30th June, 1977 amounted to £169,111 against £153,154 for the same period in 1976, and taxation for the half-year was £60,570 against £58,450.

**Interim Dividend Unchanged**  
An interim dividend of 1p cash will be paid on 7th October, 1977 to Dividend shareholders on the register on 5th September.

**Asset Values Higher**  
On 30th June, 1977 net assets were £5,828,000 equivalent to 203p per Asset Share (one year ago 171p) taking quoted investments at market value.

All figures are unaudited.

### GESTETNER LIMITED

Dividend shareholders will receive 7.7% interim dividend on 6th September 1977. Capital shares will be despatched on or before 9th September to holders of Capital shares registered on 5th August as follows:

Based on an average price of	Ord Cap	'A' Ord Cap
for each share held, holders will receive	149.706p	149.706p
Fractions of new shares are retained by the Company.	.019483	.019483

### How the markets moved

The Times index: 199.79-0.79  
The FT index: 485.6-2.1

#### Rises

APCM	3p to 22 1/2p
Auto Products	4 1/2p to 9 1/2p
Ayer Hiltam	5p to 33 1/2p
Brit Borneo	4p to 17 1/2p
Copper Nickel	3p to 7 1/2p
Cong Gold	6p to 16 1/2p
GECC	3p to 24 1/2p

#### Falls

BAT Inds	5p to 27 1/2p
BOC	2 1/2p to 8 1/2p
BP	12 1/2p to 56 1/2p
British Land	1p to 3 1/2p
Courtaulds	2p to 11 1/2p

Equities were suddenly deserted by buyers. Gold-edged securities were slightly down. Dollar Premium 88.575 per cent (sterling lost 25.4 per cent). The effective exchange rate index was at 62.0.

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#### THE POUND

Australia	1.63	Bank	1.58
Austria	2.35	Bank	2.35
Belgium	64.50	Bank	61.50
Canada	1.91	Bank	1.86
Denmark	16.72	Bank	16.72
Finland	7.23	Bank	6.98
France	8.76	Bank	8.44
Germany	4.22	Bank	4.08
Greece	6.75	Bank	6.75
Hong Kong	8.40	Bank	7.95
Italy	156.00	Bank	156.00
Japan	490.00	Bank	465.00
Netherlands	4.44	Bank	4.23
Norway	9.46	Bank	9.10
Portugal	87.80	Bank	75.00
Spain	12.75	Bank	12.75
Sweden	7.95	Bank	7.68
Switzerland	4.37	Bank	4.15
US	1.78	Bank	1.73

Gold: lost \$1.50 an ounce to \$143.125.

SDR: was 1.6520 on Friday while SDR-F was 0.662436.

Commodities: Cocoa prices dropped sharply. Reuters' index was at 1485.1 (previous 1485.2).

Reports pages 15, 16, 17 & 18



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## A different style of floating

After Bristol's brave, though unenthusiastically received, pioneering attempt to "float" earlier this month, it looks as if the Metropolitan Boroughs of Dudley and Oldham may generate rather more enthusiasm with a scheme concocted by Morgan Grenfell and Greaveson, Grant.

The essence of the Dudley and Oldham issues—each has issued £10m of Floating Rate Stock, 1982—is simplicity and appropriate tailoring to the intended markets, namely the banking sector, any other deposit-taking institutions and money market operators. This means that whereas Bristol trod the path first beaten by the Government and tied its coupon to Treasury Bill Rate, Dudley and Oldham have linked their coupons to the more appropriate rates of the inter-bank market—offering one per cent over 6 month LIBOR.

In other words a bank, or any one else with access to the money markets, will be able to fund themselves for six months at a time and hold stock in the certain knowledge of obtaining a 1 per cent gross margin over their financing costs. Barring national calamity, they will also be able to refinance themselves on a six monthly basis, each time knowing that the 1 per cent gross margin—obviously rather less net of expenses—remains intact.

In the first instance, it is this certainty that is probably all-important for the target investors, albeit that the initial yield of just under 8.2 per cent compares poorly with nearly 8.6 per cent obtainable on the Bristol stock. One can still ask, however, if 1 per cent over 6 month LIBOR is likely to prove enough.

The answer to this is: probably just about now that the banking "corset" is off. While the corset was still on some banks, although below their ceilings, were slightly wary about entering roll-over commitments to local authorities and such financing was costing the authorities 1.1-1.3 per cent over LIBOR. Since the removal of the corset, however, banks have felt free to compete and deals are reported to have been done at close to 1 per cent over LIBOR.

● The growth curve is now well and truly flattening out at BOC International with its nine month pre-tax profits 16 per cent up at £60.4m. Thus third quarter growth is down to 6 per cent, which compares with a 23 per cent improvement at half time and the spectacular 60 per cent growth for the whole of last year.

The outcome for this year now looks set for the £83m region, an increase of 13 per cent which will look distinctly modest after the last three years. This kind of plateau clearly raises the question of where the company will go next and whether it is likely to be testing new profit ground in the near future.

The forecasting problem has always been the even international mix of BOC's operations. This has given it strength against local recession but limits its ability to take advantage of an economic upturn. With the variable performances of the major economies and the uncertainties in Africa and Asia, the market ratings were traditionally cautious until last year's figures intervened.

Since then a steady rerating of the shares has been taking place, helped by the fading out of the influence of the 1975 rights issue. But the possibility of more new paper in the next year or so may have a restraining effect. At 84½, off 2½p yesterday, the shares are selling at 77 times prospective earnings, yield 5.2 per cent and look set for a fairly unexciting ride.

In the meantime, the United States authorities are still keeping their options open on whether they should challenge further the company's one third stake in Airco and the continued uncertainty is bound to be unsettling.

### Frizzell Group

#### Bypassing the Stock Exchange

The decision by insurance brokers Frizzell Group to eschew a stock market quotation in favour of the easier route of a cash injection by Finance for Industry's venture capital arm, Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation, is a significant indictment of the market's attitude to small companies.

On the surface, Frizzell has everything going for it. Like the rest of the insurance broking industry, it has an impressive growth record with pre-tax profits rising from £922,000 in 1973 to £1.74m last year. It would have no difficulty in complying with The Stock Exchange's listing requirements, and the family is keen to dilute its present 70 per cent stake. Indeed, so keen were Frizzell three years ago that only the

blue touchpaper had to be lit for a public quotation before the market subsequently turned against it.

There are, it is true, one or two caveats. Most important looks to be Frizzell's tardiness in going into Europe which has provided the real stimulus for the larger broking groups. All things considered, though, Frizzell has all the makings of a prime candidate for a public quote.

The snag is that however attractive Frizzell may look intrinsically the group is still a minnow compared with the other quoted groups. So even with a public quote the group is likely to find itself shunned by the investing institutions.

Much of the evidence to the Wilson Committee has centred on the way smaller companies have been left out in the cold in the



Mr Norman Frizzell, chairman of Frizzell Group.

last few years and the success of Nightingale's over-the-counter market, together with the Stock Exchange's tacit admission in its evidence to Wilson that the OTC market had a role, is a further indication that companies of the size of Frizzell find the rigmarole of obtaining a full quotation hardly worth the trouble. Frizzell is not discounting the public quote in due course but in the meantime the £3m from ICFC allows the family to take roughly £1m out while giving the company £2m to pursue its overseas ambitions.

For ICFC, Frizzell represents one of its largest single investments. The question now is how long before FFI itself, faced with poor demand for medium-term capital, starts to muscle in on Equity Capital for Industry's territory, especially as ICFC took the initiative in approaching Frizzell.

### Equities

#### What the charts say

Although the stock market has fallen back modestly after failing to penetrate the 500 500 mark on the FT Index, chart analysts are surprisingly unanimous in their view that equities will continue to rise and will soon reach their all time "high" of mid-1977. In the short-term, a number of chartists see the relatively sluggish gilt market as a temporary curb on ordinary share prices. But few expect gilt-primed reverses seriously to affect the market's upward momentum.

Chart Analysis takes the hardest line on the gilt argument and feels that equities are now vulnerable to fairly sharp reversals that could test an established resistance level around 474 to 480.

CA believes that a setback taking the market below that range would be extremely worrying although on balance they remain optimistic, at least temporarily cautious.

Investment Research of Cambridge takes a more sanguine view. They feel that equities may now have moved into a phase where they are no longer closely linked to the fortunes of the gilt market, and see no reason to alter their view that the FT Index will hit 600 by February, 1979.

Chart watchers in a number of stock-broker's analysis departments judge Investment Research's 600 target as overly cautious. But oddly enough, not one of the optimists was willing to put his name to a firm forecast.

One view common to all the chartists, is that too much stress is put on the 500 "barrier" on the FT Index. Private investors, who traditionally lost their nerve when the Index came in sight of such a round number, no longer have much influence on the market, they argue.

Institutional dominance of the market accentuates share price volatility. But it has also had the effect of abolishing the less rational Index resistance levels.

The next prime test of market confidence—assuming that the gilt warriors are proved wrong—is expected to be in the 530 range running up to the 543.6 reached at top of the bull market in 1972. Once through that range there are no obvious technical barriers in sight.

Five motions for the annual Trades Union Congress in a fortnight's time call for a reduction in the standard working week from 40 to 35 hours to bring down unemployment. Last week the Transport and General Workers' Union announced its intention to claim a 35-hour week in the construction industry, no doubt the first of a number of such claims.

Overtime among male manual workers in building averages five hours a week and in civil engineering 11 hours. But only three motions on the TUC agenda, not including that of the transport workers, advocate a reduction in overtime.

In the week ended May 14 this year, nearly two million operatives averaged 8½ hours overtime a week in manufacturing industry alone. Total overtime hours worked in 16,580,000, nearly two million more than a year earlier and the equivalent of more than 400,000 full-time jobs.

Since only one-third of employees are in manufacturing, the total of overtime hours worked each week must be far higher than that.

Most of the overtime is done by men on manual work in all industries and services, according to the Department of Employment's survey for April last year, such men, excluding those absent for part of the period, averaged 5.4 overtime hours a week, while white collar men averaged 1.3 hours and women less than an hour.

Average overtime hours among men covered by some of the main collective agreements are given in the table. Other sectors of industry in which men's overtime averaged more than five hours include sea transport (18.1), parts of metal manufacture, bricks and other building materials, port transport and wholesale and retail distribution of food and drink.

Clearly substantial overtime

## Overtime: one cause of unemployment?

Clearly substantial overtime is worked in many large sectors of British industry and much of it is regular and systematic. If a determined and sustained attempt were made to get rid of that, the effect on unemployment might be no less than the effect of a campaign for a shorter week.

is worked in many large sectors of British industry and much of it is regular and systematic. If a determined and sustained attempt were made to get rid of that, the effect on unemployment might be no less than the effect of a campaign for a shorter week.

No one would want to get rid of overtime altogether. It is often needed for rush orders or in other emergencies, or to deal with irregular work or because of the special nature of the job, such as that of seamen. Building labourers often start work half an hour early to prepare for the craftsmen and that counts as overtime. Civil engineering workers sometimes work very long hours to take advantage of favourable weather. But often overtime work could be compensated for by alternative time off.

It is surprising that Mr Jack Jones, who has led the campaign for a shorter basic week in Europe as well as in this country, has not given higher priority to reducing overtime. His union is powerful in many

### AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS WORKED BY MEN

Private sector	Public sector
Baking	14.1
Civil engineering	10.9
Shipbuilding	8.8
Milk products	8.4
Electrical contracting	7.3
Papermaking	5.9
Chemicals	5.4
Building	5.1
Labour	4.7
Engineering	4.6
Cotton	4.1
Wages councils and boards	
Road Haulage	11.3
Farming	5.7

## Italy prepares to shoulder a huge burden of company debt

have to report next month on which can be rescued. But the banking world expects to suffer losses from what has hitherto been looked on as first class government-backed loans.

Signor Franco Figa, chairman of the public credit institutes, ICIPU and Credito, drew attention to this in an interview in an economic weekly. "A new element has been introduced which was never considered before, and that is the risk of failure also for public undertakings or those under the state".

Signor Giosuè Ciapparelli, director general of Banca Popolare di Milano, speculated in the same weekly that banking losses sparked off by the

### John Earle

Egmont failure might have adverse repercussions on Italian creditability abroad.

"If foreign banks were to require repayment of the approximately seven billion dollars received as credits by Italian credit institutes, what would happen to the lira, and to what level would the dollar rise?" he asked. "I do not dare to think".

Few bankers believe matters will go so far as this, but the seriousness of the situation was underlined in a study published last month by the merchant bank Mediobanca, analysing the finances between 1968 and 1976 of a sample 795 companies.

It concluded that, if a recent law permitting revaluation of certain assets were disregarded, on an average companies had nearly eight lire of debts for every lire of capital and own funds.

Companies had "a burden of massive interest payments which are barely comparable with any prospect of economic recovery, and are a serious hindrance to launching new investment programmes", the study wrote.

A preoccupying consequence was that "the deterioration in firms' balance sheets had the power of feeding on itself, generating losses which in their turn have to be faced through further recourse to indebtedness".

At the same time the Mediobanca study highlighted—and this has largely escaped attention—that many medium and smaller companies are in a much healthier state.

Of the 795 companies surveyed, 116 were under family control with a capital which in 1968 did not exceed 1,000 million lire (monthly average 257,000), sales rose above 10,000 million lire (55.7m) and a workforce not above 1,000.

These, on the whole, returned to profitability after making losses in 1975, and were able to finance capital investment requirements out of their own resources.

These companies, it might be added, have a lower debt burden often because the banks apply to them stricter lending criteria and they have been spurred thereby to greater self-reliance.

The Italians have a genius for survival and, despite pessimistic comments by individual bankers, there is not yet the feeling in the air that the country on the verge of a crisis like that of the 1930s.

This was when Banca Commerciale Italiana, Credito Italiano and Banco di Roma were saved from collapse by the formation of IRI to take over them and their holdings in unsuccessful companies.

Signor Salvatore Buscemi, head of research at Banco di Sicilia, makes the point that the Andreotti government, thanks to the support of the Communists and other democratic parties, is in fact now in a stronger position to make the banking system accept distasteful but necessary solutions in a way that earlier administrations could not.

Any crisis coming to a head in the autumn ought to be faced with less pessimism.

then under previous governments. The Government is indeed understood to be working on measures derived from a range of ideas ventilated in the past by Signor Carli and Signor Paolo Baffi, respectively former and present governors of the Bank of Italy.

The measures are reported to envisage banks getting out of companies to take capital shares, possibly preference or non-voting, in ailing companies.

The funds for this, it is suggested, would come from the reserves of banks which would in return be granted special facilities.

But what the Government has in mind is still obscure, and little can be said except that more is likely to be heard of it in coming months.

## BOC

### BOC International Ltd Group profit, unaudited, for the nine months to 30 June 1977 is:

	Nine months to 30.6.77	Nine months to 30.6.76	Year to 30.6.76
Group sales	£499.1	£442.3	£61.8
Operating costs	415.6	370.2	45.4
Depreciation	83.5	72.1	11.4
	26.0	21.3	4.7
	57.5	60.8	3.3
Add: Group share of associated companies' profits less losses	17.7	15.9	1.8
Group trading profit	75.2	66.7	8.5
Europe	29.7	24.1	5.6
Africa	11.1	9.1	2.0
Americas	15.7	16.8	1.1
Asia	3.8	3.0	0.8
Pacific	15.1	13.7	1.4
Interest	75.2	66.7	8.5
Group profit before tax	60.4	52.2	8.2
Tax	31.3	27.5	3.8
Minorities	29.1	24.7	4.4
Group profit attributable to parent company	23.4	20.0	3.4

Earnings per share (based on 256,880,000 ordinary fully paid shares of 25p in issue at 30 June 1977) 9.10p 7.78p 1c

1) Trading profit for the nine months to 30 June 1977 h reduced by extra depreciation of £2.8 million provided for the current financial year.  
2) Sterling has strengthened against other major currencies the nine months to 30 June 1977, but the effect of trading profits was not material.

Further copies of this report may be obtained from the S BOC International Ltd, Hamper Smith House, London, E1 4JF. Tel. 01-755 2020.

## Business Diary: Noughts for their comfort

Ross Davies, Business Diary's Editor, is touring the United States. Today he reports on a week's journey south from Washington DC to Miami Beach, Florida.

Southerners, used to being regarded as yokels by northerners, are amused if not gratified by a story which starts in Moundsville, West Virginia, and concerns a missing \$990,000 (about £580,000) presumed lost by northerners.

The first National Bank of Moundsville, a southern institution, asked a northern colleague, Mellon Bank of Pittsburgh, to transfer \$1,000 to a lady in Manila, the Philippines. Mellon accordingly sent a telegram to a bank in Manila—but racked on three extra noughts.

Unfortunately for Mellon, the Filipino lady and her husband transferred the money to another account. Most of it has now been sent, including \$37,333 on gambling and \$120,000 on "miscellaneous expenses".

The \$200,000 or so that remains, the Philippines say, will not be repaid unless Mellon—founded by the philanthropist Andrew Mellon—drops legal proceedings to recover the rest.

"We have rooms for your sleeping convenience". Another at Henderson, North Carolina, which is across the road from the sign of a rival Howard Johnson's says: "Please ignore message on other side." The other side of the Holiday Inn sign says: "No danger of snow in next twenty-four hours." It was then 97 degrees.

■ When Grounwick is to Britain and to the Prime Minister, so is the J. P. Stevens textile company to North Carolina and another Jim, Governor James B. Edwards.

Edwards, who started a four-year term in January, is an unusual man. He was, for instance, once economic adviser to the King of Nepal. But he will need to be unusual to unjam the union-management deadlock at this company. There has been trouble since the early sixties.

As things now stand the company has yet to allow the textile workers' union to negotiate at the Roanoke Rapids plant, although it is now three years since a majority of the workers so voted.

Stevens has 85 plants in the United States, most of them in the South. Roanoke Rapids, therefore, has great symbolic significance and, if the company crumbles here, the way lies open for unionization first throughout the textile industry



Governor James B. Edwards: looking on in anguish.

and then throughout the whole of the deeply anti-union South.

The textile company has paid out thousands of dollars in fines, having been found guilty of unfair practices 15 times since 1965 by the National Labour Relations Board.

The union movement is prepared to spend \$8m on cracking the company's resolve. The AFL-CIO union confederation is urging a national boycott. Governor Edwards looked on in political anguish recently as the House Labour Subcommittee travelled from Washington

to Roanoke Rapids to hold hearings on the revision of the National Labour Relations Act.

On the one hand, Edwards knows that companies from other parts of the United States and from abroad are moving into North Carolina because both unionization and wages are low. On the other hand, many other southern states display great charm—without a long-running labour versus capital extravaganza which isn't doing anybody any good.

Incidentally, Stevens executives decline to appear before the subcommittee, but one man who has been Leonard Wilson, president of a Stevens' employees' educational committee.

He said: "It is against god's will for the unions to preach more and more money when Timothy I, vi 10, tells us that money is the root of all evil." But then this is the Bible belt.

No American has a stronger sense of heritage than the small businessman. I saw a sign outside a restaurant in Chapel Hill, North Carolina which reads "Hector's. Famous since 1869".

■ One way to make your pile, as I have found in Miami Beach, is to invent a craze and strike out on your own to promote it. Remember the hula hoop? Dan Sheffer and David Oslin,

both of Orlando, Florida, are now hoping to make their fortunes by persuading people to make a pet of a live hermit crab.

Sheffer, a photographer, has sold \$90,000 worth of equipment and Oslin, a printing broker, cashed in his life insurance to get their venture off the ground—or is it off the sea bed?

They just have been on a promotional flight to New York during which their mascot, a crab called "Enormous", occupied a first-class seat.

The crabs are bought in Puerto Rico; the shells in Florida. Both, together with terrarium landscaped in Coral, are now being sold in 41 states.

I asked a Miami Beach taxi driver if it was easy to make a living in Florida. No, he said. Was work hard to find? No—but to all top employees companies paid 60 per cent in cash and 40 per cent in sunshine.

■ Frank Brumley told me how the long arm of the Kuwaiti Intelligence Co came to reach into Carolina.

He runs Kiawah Island, a resort 21 miles south of Charleston. The resort opened in May last year after Kuwaitis had spent \$17m to buy the island and \$20m in developing it.

He told me that Ed Williamson, a South Carolinian who had been seconded to Kuwait by the World Bank, gave the idea to Adil Al-Hamad, then head of the Kuwaiti company.

Kiawah was then just 10,000 acres of snake and alligator-haunted salt marsh, forest and 10 miles of Atlantic beach.

The Kuwaitis bought the island without planning permission and it was the job of Brumley, now vice-president of the KIC's Kiawah Island Company subsidiary, to prevail over the state's conservationists, nearby black farmers who feared tax overkill and Charleston's vocal Jewish community.

"I convinced them", he said, "that there would be no Arabesque architecture or camel races on the beach".

Kiawah was packed with South Carolinians, including the state Association of Independent Bankers, when I was there. Brumley says that the resort is already profitable and further developments will be backed by United States banks rather than by the Kuwaitis.

At a chemical plant I visited on the way south, a six-foot alligator had taken up residence in one of the water treatment ponds. It's been named after the company's senior executive vice-president.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Positive benefits of the tachograph

From Mr Geoffrey Dupree  
In his article "Stony road ahead for hauliers" (Wednesday, August 10), Michael Bailey makes several generalisations which cannot be allowed to pass without comment.  
His suggestion that the initial cost of tachographs is high is acceptable as a debating point. If the operator, having installed them, were then to receive absolutely no benefits from them, Mr Bailey must be most alone in the country in believing that it is not possible to make some practical use of a continuous record of a vehicle's journey—time elapsed, distance covered and speed, as provided by the tachograph. Furthermore the driver's daily record sheet is provided virtually automatically. The real worry of operators is fear of owing to pay drivers for installing the tachograph in their cab, whilst being denied the opportunity of using them to their advantage. The purpose of the EEC tachograph is to protect both operators and drivers as well as the public from owners and drivers who are prepared to flout the law on driving hours. The proposed return to free collective bargaining appears to provide a answer to both the cost problem and the "intransigent position" of the transport unions.  
In any case, it is questionable whether tachographs can really be considered costly at £150

per vehicle compared with Mr Bailey's own statement that the index of new lorry prices is 325 taking 1970 as a base of 100.  
Mr Bailey also says that many operators see the EEC hours rule as a burden. It is also true that many operators saw the introduction of the United Kingdom hours rules as burdensome. By all means let us get the best possible balance between the needs of the industry and the environment, but do not blame the tachograph for carrying out the job for which it was designed. Millions of tachographs are in use spread over many countries of the world, both on a mandatory and a voluntary basis. It is inconceivable that this would be the case, if the instrument did not have positive benefits to the vast majority concerned.  
In stark contrast to the position of the United Kingdom, which has been in breach of the EEC regulations since January 1, 1976, the Greek government introduced a national regulation on July 1 of this year, calling for all vehicles of 3.5 metric tons GVW and over to be fitted with an EEC approved tachograph. This before even applying for membership of the European Community!  
Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY P. DUPREE,  
1, Westminster Palace Gardens,  
Arlington Row,  
London, SW1P 1RL,  
August 15, 1977.

Overproduction crisis in pig farming

From Lt Commander  
C. Varley  
In your issue of April 29, you were good enough to find space for a letter of mine in which I suggested that if European overproduction of certain agricultural commodities, notably meat and protein, is to be avoided, European farmers would be advised to accept some sort of control over what they produce. I went on to propose a system regulating every farmer's production of animal products to his ability to support in so far as this is possible his own resources. Even this would still involve the creation from outside the country of the bulk of the meat and protein.  
Your issue of August 5, reports that the National Farmers' Union (of which I am a member) passed a motion of confidence in the Government to end the pig farming subsidies (together with other subsidies). I am as anxious as anyone to see an end to these subsidies. I realise that I cannot look any reliable long term re-

ward while the industry of which I form a very small part continues to overproduce.  
For the simply the pig crisis is due to overproduction both in this country, in Denmark and, more than likely, in most of the other member states. What other industry would commit such folly and then expect to be bailed out by the Government, Brussels, or anyone else including the consumer? What government would lean over backwards to help such an industry? The devaluation of the green pound would, in Britain, probably ease the competition from Denmark, but it would provide little more than temporary relief. It is instead of passing votes of no confidence, the NFU were to take the lead in proposing measures to prevent such overproduction by British agriculture, and then in persuading similar bodies in Europe to do the same, it would then have earned the support not only of the Government and the consumer, but also of a sizeable proportion of its own members.  
Yours faithfully,  
C. VARLEY,  
Chilworth Hill,  
New Bedford,  
Surrey,  
GU4 8QP,  
August 7, 1977.

Correcting computation 'anomaly' in FT Index

From Mr E. H. Bateman  
Sir, While The Financial Times languishes in limbo, the 30-share index continues to flourish. The Index, as it is now so often called in our press and broadcast City reports, has become an indispensable element of the financial establishment.  
Born in 1935 it affords an unbroken link with a long period—a century or more—of comparatively stable money. As nearly all its constituents are actively traded, it is a very sensitive monitor of market sentiment. It is an essentially English institution, an epitome of understatement and abnegation—admirable qualities in an age of imperial power, but singularly inappropriate when all our economic indicators are wailing under post-imperial pressures. For the "geometric" method of computation ensures that the index number is always less than the arithmetical mean, or simple average, of the constituent values.  
The drift of a geometric index number below real values, as quotations move away from the initial datum, is almost imperceptible for small movements and short-term fluctuations. But over a long period, with wider divergence of constituent quotations, it becomes significant. Over the past 42 years the drift has increased to such an extent that the index now represents only about 60 per cent of the real value of the FT portfolio.  
The anomaly could be corrected painlessly and unobtrusively, and the index number aligned with value—now and for the future—by changing to an arithmetical or average computation, in continuity with the present index number, by adjusting the 1935 base value from 100 to 60. On this basis the real value of the 1935 portfolio would be 800 when the index stands at 480.  
The era of abdication and suicide (see future Mistorians may entitle the current chapter in our national story) is hopelessly drawing to a close. So many of our economic indicators are now at rock bottom, if they have not already passed dead centre, that it would be folly to continue with a securities index which so grossly understates real value. Especially when the remedy is so simple and the divergence from real value if uncorrected must continue to increase.  
Yours faithfully,  
E. HUGH BATMAN,  
Sandridge Cottage,  
Upper Bourne,  
Farnham, Surrey,  
GU10 4UA,  
August 19.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS  
Stock markets  
Sluggish start then late stir

If the FT Index is to break the psychologically important 500 barrier, the recent enthusiasm from institutional buyers shown over the past fortnight must somehow be restored. In vivid contrast to the life seen in the past fortnight, markets opened the new account yesterday in decidedly sluggish fashion.  
The trend in both Government stocks and equities during the day was broadly similar. Heartened by the echoes of last week's good run, prices opened on a firm note only to drift back steadily during much of the day before stirring briefly near the close to trim some earlier losses.  
Gilts mostly ended  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$  down having been ahead by a

to climb off the bottom and the session ended with the FT Index just 2.1 down at 485.6.  
Of the few companies reporting yesterday, BOC International and Wedgwood disappointed. The third quarter results from BOC and possibly continued doubts about the Aircor associate, put the shares down 2 1/2 to 8 1/2 while Wedgwood lost 6p to close at 25 1/2, despite a doubled first quarter earnings.  
The "blue chips" were also mostly friendless. ICI set the tone, as ever, with a 4p fall to 406p while BAT Industries, Beecham Group, Unilever, GKN and Tube Investments all slipped by between 1p and 5p.  
The electrical front was more optimistic with BMS edging forward 1p to 233p and GEC added 3p to 245p. On the building and civil engineering pitch the long-awaited upturn, stimulated by beliefs that the Government may be persuaded to relax the domestic industry, continued in its quiet fashion. J. Laing climbed 2p to 115p and Associated Portland Cement put up 3p to 225p.  
But in the main, bids provided the very few sparks of interest. Temple Bar Investment was the brightest feature with a 4 1/2p rise to 161 on the announcement of merger proposals with Telephone & General. And Mene Containers advanced 6p to 35p—1p over the bid terms—

on news of the offer from Autobus Vending Industries which caps the price put forward by the Belgian-owned Polysar about a month ago.  
Stanley Gibbons advanced 3p to 123p on the announcement that it is to buy Charles Nissen, the only philatelic group other than Gibbons to hold a Royal Warrant from the Queen.  
Other strong counters were rare. Glanfield Securities, the alarms manufacturer, gained 10p to 170p on light demand in a thin market and selected specialist engineers were also wanted. Automotive Products put up 4p to 95p. Jones Woodhead climbed 4p to 174p, good final profits added 1 1/2p to F. S. Ratcliffe at 49p while expectation of results due from Houchins today pulled the shares up by 8p to 138p.  
Demand for financial counters was sluggish and a 1p fall in British Land was a lethargic property sector.  
Oils, too, were largely clipped back with British Petroleum leading the way down on a 12p fall to 506p. Shell also dropped 4p to 584p. Mining finance houses lost earlier gains although Consolidated Goldfields held onto a 6p rise to 164p. And tins were also wanted with Tronoh climbing 10p to 155p and Ayer Hittam enjoying a 5p rise to 330p.

Conditions on the option market were reported "moderate" and at least in contrast with markets a month ago—a little business is being undertaken in short term options. Calls produced for settlement on September 13 comprised Ralac and doubles.  
Support has been seen for Diploma Investments, in bathroom fittings, engineering and the distribution, but not the manufacture of electronic components. The shares are now 138p. In the year to June 30, 1976 profits were £2.5m and in the past year they should reach at least £3.7m. The dividend is strongly covered and could move sharply when the time comes. The interim dividend absorbed only £117,500 of attributable profits of £777,000. The group reports next month.  
We completed in S Lohoff and Mount Charlotte Investments. No put options business was recorded.  
Equity turnover on August 19 was £76.51m (20,417 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were ICI, Shell, BAT, Dea, Distillers, GEC, Ultramar, Unilever, Marks & Spencer, GUS "A", Beecham, Dunlop, Debenhams, APCM, GKN, Houchins, Stanley Gibbons and BP.

Unigate puts EEC & UK dairy prices in focus

By Tony May  
In this, the final year of transition to the full application of Common Market arrangements, Unigate's vital objective is to ensure that British farmers and manufacturers get an increasing share of the home milk market. Further, that they do not find themselves at a disadvantage with Common Market competitors after January 1—the date when the United Kingdom changeover is completed.  
Sir James Barker, who remains as chairman of Britain's largest dairy foods group at the annual meeting, says that transition may mean an end to the method of fixing the price at which the group buys milk. Talks are already taking place about this with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.  
Sir James, who will be handing over the chair to Mr John Clement, says that prices for dairy products have been increasing rapidly and there are signs of consumer resistance.  
"After January 1, more than ever before, the group and its suppliers must rely on the market place for its income. So what it can pay its suppliers will be limited by what in turn customers will pay for products. This will govern progress in developing levels of self-sufficiency aimed for in the Government's White Paper—"Food from our own sources", he added.  
He sees little justification for seeking extra production of milk from United Kingdom farms unless the milk can be processed and sold in competition with imported dairy products. Sir James points out that the dairy industry is spending a good deal of money on overhauling and modernising its plant and machinery and is expected to lead to a growing market share in the United Kingdom for home produced dairy products, of which Unigate will "take full advantage".

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profit	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
£m	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
BOC Int (1)	499.1(442.3)	60.4(52.2)	9.10(7.78)	—	—	—
CSC Int (1)	—	0.03(0.03)	—	1.6(1.6)	19.3	—
Dejny (1)	1.3(1.4)	0.14(0.15)	—	—	—	—
Elis (Rend) (F)	1.3(1.3)	0.11(0.13)	—	1.1(1.1)	—	1.1(1.1)
Graham Hse (F)	—	0.35(0.24)	—	—	—	—
Mary Kathleen (L)	—	8.3(4.21)	—	—	—	—
F. S. Ratcliffe (L)	1.4(1.3)	0.17(0.09)	10.22(5.5)	3.70(3.2)	—	4.7(2.0)
St Andrew (F)	—	0.41(0.36)	—	1.5(1.25)	1/10	—
J. Stocks (F)	35.0(29.6)	0.58(0.53)	27.2(24.1)	—	—	—
Victor Prod (F)	6.3(5.0)	0.35(0.60)	10.69(5.75)	1.63(—)	3/10	—
Wedgwood (1)	16.2(11.4)	1.6(0.82)	7.0(4.0)	—	—	—
—	—	90.6(25.45)	—	7.5(5.0)	3/10	2.5(10)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.515. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. \* For 13 weeks. + AS. £ Hongkong currency.

Nationwide Leisure inquiry delay

By Michael Clark  
The Take-over Panel has decided to postpone its investigation into Nationwide Leisure Group, until the outcome of a pending court case is known.  
The panel states that in a circular dated July 1, shareholders of Nationwide were informed that their company had bought the issued share capital of £142,000 in Mildhaven Developments.  
As a result the panel has had to consider whether a group of people including Mr J. M. Hurchins, chairman of Nationwide, has bought shares of Nationwide carrying 30 per cent or more of the voting rights.

Jubilee boosts china sales at Wedgwood

By Allison Mitchell  
The current year should be a good one for Stoke-on-Trent china group Wedgwood, says Sir Arthur Bryan, chairman.  
In the 13 weeks to July 2, pre-tax profits more than doubled from £24,000 to £1.7m on sales up 42 per cent to £16.25m. However Sir Arthur was warning that this rate of increase cannot be expected to be maintained in the remaining nine months.  
Although first quarter sales were given a fillip by the jubilee tourist boom the group has also been strong in the traditional lines in most of the established markets, both at home and overseas. Only in the lower-priced earthenware division is demand weak, but there are signs of a gradual improvement.  
Most manufacturing divisions increased prices on July 1 while the overseas companies have also raised selling prices to maintain the rate of profitability. Because of the relative stability of the



Sir Arthur Bryan, chairman of Wedgwood.

French buy Brown Harriman

Two private French banks, Credit Commercial de France and Banque Internationale pour l'Afrique Occidentale, have jointly acquired the share capital of Brown Harriman & International Bank.  
From today, Brown Harriman, which will be 50-50 owned by the two French banks, will be known as the Banque Française de Crédit International. Sir John Hogg will remain as chairman while his deputy will be M. André Chardon, Secretary-General of Banque Internationale.  
Brown Harriman will continue and develop its existing activities, including eurobonds and euroloans.  
In the 12 months to March 31 last, Brown Harriman turned in a pre-tax profit of £535,000 against £503,000 previously. However, Sir John gave a warning in May, that, unless conditions improved, it would be difficult for the bank to make similar profits in the future, without taking risks.

Coffee price rise nudged Paterson bank overdraft

The big increases in coffee prices in the past year are blamed for the bank overdraft of R. Paterson & Sons, Glasgow-based coffee chocky and food manufacturers, jumping from £1m to £1.9m. Mr William Armstrong, chairman, told the annual meeting that the board was very conscious of the high level of borrowing.  
The output of coffee essence had greatly increased compared with that of instant coffee, which was in a very competitive market. It was now expanding the business, discontinuing some lines and developing new ones.  
Acting for a number of companies Paterson had taken over new products and were now channelling them into group operations. The rise in export sales from £185,000 to £400,000 last year arose from new markets in Australia, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark and Holland.

BROWN HARRIMAN & INTERNATIONAL BANKS LIMITED

announces that with effect from August 23rd 1977 the capital of the Bank has been acquired by

CREDIT COMMERCIAL DE FRANCE

and

BANQUE INTERNATIONALE POUR L'AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE

with equal shareholding

The name of the Bank is now

BANQUE FRANCAISE DE CREDIT INTERNATIONAL LTD.

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Telephone: 01-626 9898

01-623 3243 Foreign Exchange  
01-626 2721 Eurobonds

Telex:  
884031 BAFRIC  
886619 BAFREX Foreign Exchange  
887186 BAFREB Eurobonds

MOORGATE INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED

Year ended 31st May 1977

- Earnings up 36.5%
- Dividend up 30%
- Net Asset Value up 22.8%

Directors:  
Brian R. Basset  
Desmond A. Reid  
James E. A. R. Guinness  
The Hon. Peter M. Samuel, M.C., T.D.  
David M. McAlpine  
Anthony P. Simonian

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement

**POLICY** Our policy continues to be to invest mainly in smaller companies and in companies where the market in the shares tends to be narrow.

**REVENUE** Earnings are up from 2.376p to 3.245p per share, an increase of 36.5%. The dividend for the year is 3.055p per share against 2.35p per share last year, an increase of 30%, which compares with a rise of 14.0% in the dividends covered by the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index and of 17.1% in the Retail Price Index.

Our income estimate continues to show an improvement over 1976/77, and we will be disappointed if we cannot again increase the dividend for the current year.

**CAPITAL** The net asset value of the Company's ordinary shares rose by 22.8% from 67.0p to 82.3p per share. This performance compares with a rise of 18.1% in the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index.

At 31st May 1977 the F.T. 30-Share Index had risen 39% since 1960, when the Company was formed, whereas the net asset value per share over this period had increased by 229%.

We are hopeful that some of the companies in which we are invested will receive take-over approaches during our current year.

Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from Philip Hill (Management) Limited, 8 Waterloo Place, London SW1 4AY.



INVESTMENT TRUST COMPANIES

The following is an amendment to the table published on Saturday, 20th August, 1977, in which certain figures were incorrectly printed.

Total Assets less current liabilities (£m)	Company	Shares or Stock (£)	Date of Valuation (d)	Annual Dividend (£)	Net Asset Value after deducting prior charges at nominal value (p)	Net Asset Value after deducting prior charges at market value (p)	Investment Premium (see note 2) (p)
Pence except where stated (see note 4)							
40.2	Ivory & Sons Ltd.	Ordinary 25p	29/7/77	0.4	118.9	125.8	16.6
15.5	Atlantic Assets Trust	Ordinary 25p	29/7/77	0.3	134.2	134.2	12.6
48.2	Viking Resources Trust	Ordinary 25p	29/7/77	2.9	137.0	142.4	13.9
56.5	Touche, Remann & Co.	Ordinary 25p	29/7/77	2.0	163.8	169.9	10.4
32.1	Sphere Investment Trust	Ordinary 25p	29/7/77	4.8	124.3	129.7	8.7



The Council of the Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List the whole of the £10,000,000 Dudley Metropolitan Floating Rate Stock 1982 at £100 per cent. The application has been made on 23 August 1977 and will be closed later on the same day.

### DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

**Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited**  
Offer for Sale  
£10,000,000 Dudley Metropolitan Borough  
Floating Rate Stock 1982 at £100 per cent.  
payable in full on application

Interest (less income tax) will be payable half-yearly on 22nd February and 22nd August. Interest amounting to £4,093.55 (less income tax) per £100 Stock in respect of the half-year commencing 22nd August 1977 will be paid on 22nd February 1978.

The Stock is not an investment falling within Part II of the First Schedule to the Trustee Investments Act 1961.

**THE STOCK.**—The Stock was authorized by a Resolution of the Council of Dudley Metropolitan Borough (the Council) on 22nd April 1977 and was issued under the authority of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Authorities (Stocks and Bonds) Regulations 1974 in accordance with a General Consent given by the Council on 22nd April 1977.

The Stock is authorized in full by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited ("Morgan Grenfell") under the provisions of an Agreement with Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited dated 22nd April 1977.

**INTEREST.**—(a) Interest on the Stock will be payable by half-yearly instalments in arrears on 22nd February and 22nd August. Interest payable on each year at the rate per annum calculated as provided in (b) and (c) below.

(b) The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1977 to 22nd February 1978 will be 11.5% per annum.

(c) The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1978 to 22nd August 1978 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1978 to 22nd February 1979 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1979 to 22nd August 1979 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1979 to 22nd February 1980 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

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The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1983 to 22nd February 1984 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1984 to 22nd August 1984 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1984 to 22nd February 1985 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1985 to 22nd August 1985 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1985 to 22nd February 1986 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1986 to 22nd August 1986 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1986 to 22nd February 1987 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1987 to 22nd August 1987 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1987 to 22nd February 1988 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1988 to 22nd August 1988 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1988 to 22nd February 1989 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

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The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1992 to 22nd August 1992 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1992 to 22nd February 1993 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1993 to 22nd August 1993 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1993 to 22nd February 1994 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1994 to 22nd August 1994 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1994 to 22nd February 1995 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1995 to 22nd August 1995 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1995 to 22nd February 1996 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

### Autobar's rival bid for Mono Containers

Shareholders in Mono Containers, which recently recommended an offer from Polysar Belgium NV, have now received a better bid from Autobar Vending Industries.

The offer, made yesterday by Julian S. Hodge, the Cardiff-based finance group, on behalf of Autobar, is for each ordinary share and 55p cash for each preference share.

Autobar's offer values Mono, based in Ruislip, Middlesex, at £14.5m. It is the offer made on August 9 by Polysar by 5p per ordinary share and 21p on each preference. Mono's shares rose by 5p to 36p yesterday.

The board of Mono consulted its advisers, Grindley Brands. Shareholders were advised to take action on either offer, pending "further developments".

Mono makes disposable cups and containers. Autobar helped to pioneer drink-vending in the United Kingdom and is now one of the largest vending organizations in the world.

Companies linked with Autobar and under the same management structure are involved in the manufacture and distribution of vending cups and containers, traditional teas, roasted coffees, instant tea, coffee, milk and chocolate powders vending machines and the leasing and servicing of vending machines.

Their claim about 100,000 outlets in the vending and catering fields.

Autobar and these companies have been involved in the development of the drink-vending market for 20 years and now employ about 900 people. Autobar intends that Mono's business will be continued as a separate entity if the offer succeeds. In view of the Autobar offer, Julian S. Hodge is asking Mono shareholders to take no action on the Polysar offer.

Polysar Belgium NV is a subsidiary of Polysar Ltd. This, in turn, is owned by Canada Development which is a Canadian Government-controlled company.

### Improvement after slow start seen at Phoenix Timber

By Tony May

Although the current year has got off to a rather slow start, with first-quarter sales and profit below last year's exceptionally high level, Mr Alexander Gourvitch, chairman of Phoenix Timber, views the results as satisfactory in the background of the depressed state of the construction industry.

But indications are that housing starts in the private sector are increasing. This should lead to improved results for the second quarter of the year, he says in his annual review.

But Mr Gourvitch then says that the present state of the construction industry is "critical". In particular, the reduction in the number of projects in architects' offices is a matter of concern with the effect on the future low orders.

Recent talks by an industry deputation with the Prime Minister and the Minister for the Environment have so far led only to some comparatively small Government assistance.

Cutting capital and maintenance expenditure, he went on, may be a satisfactory short-term political strategy, but it was not the solution for the country's unemployment and productivity problems.

Earlier this month the group reported that pre-tax profit rose from £440,000 to £2.3m to the year to March 31.

The trading results include an element of stock appreciation, particularly in sawwood trading. But these stock profits were not "fortuitous gifts from heaven". It was of the essence of the group's business know-

how to assess market developments many months ahead and to time forward buying and the quantities to be bought—while considering probably currency developments and the possible consequences.

To support this contention, he gives figures to show that since March 1975, the price of Russian softwood imports has increased by 41 per cent, while the rate of exchange dropped by 45 per cent. An international terms price of timber was reduced. Such price developments have been most pronounced in softwoods, but hardwood prices showed a similar trend while sheet materials maintained their steady price levels, although in international currency terms prices reduced considerably because of world overproduction.

### Hepworth Ceramic in £30m Irish venture

Cement-Roadstone Holdings, Ireland's biggest industrial company, is to be a joint partner with Hepworth Ceramic Holdings in a £30m project in the north of Ireland.

These two companies have concluded an agreement for the establishment of a new cement factory at Drogheda, Co. Louth, with an output of 100,000 tons annually. It will be owned 50 per cent by Cement-Roadstone and 49 per cent by Hepworth.

Magnesia is an important raw material in the manufacture of refractory bricks. This activity is a substantial part of the business of Hepworth, supplying refractory products to the steel, copper, glass and cement industries.

The total cost of the project to completion is expected to be about £30m—towards this the Industrial Development Authority will provide a grant of about £5m.

The balance of capital will be provided by the parties from existing resources and available facilities over a period of two years, after which it is expected that the plant will be on stream.

Mr P. Goodall, a Hepworth director, said yesterday that he thought the project would be "very profitable".

A Cement-Roadstone subsidiary will lease an existing cement factory and site to the joint company and transfer adequate high-purity limestone reserves, already acquired, necessary for the production of high-grade magnesia.

Dublin-based Cement-Roadstone made a pre-tax profit of £1.1m in 1976, sales of £113.3m. Sheffield-based Hepworth achieved a pre-tax profit of £18.4m last year on the back of sales of £162.4m. In April, it made a 16.2 per cent rise to about £21.7m and forecast a dividend of about 53 per cent on the bigger capital.

### International

### Borel slim to wipe out past losses

Paris—Jacques Borel International, the French hotel and restaurant chain, is about to trim some of its activities. It is trying to wipe out the losses suffered last year and in the first half of this year, sources close to the group said.

Initial unofficial estimates put the chain's losses in the first six months of this year at around £7m, compared with a consolidated loss of £5.3m.

The sources said that Borel officials do not expect the group to be breaking even before the end of next year.

They added that Borel intends to run down all its operations in Belgium apart from its two hotels at Brussels Airport and Knokke-ze Zoute, and all projects for setting up new hotels in France and in Egypt; and reduce the size of its Paris headquarters. As regards hotels planned for Iran and Egypt, the group will only provide its know-how, they added.

Mr Jacques Borel, the founder, left the board last May. —AP-Dow Jones.

### In Controls meeting

Thomson, Connecticut—The directors of International Controls corporation, Mr Robert L. Vesco's former operating base, plan the group's first shareholders' meeting since July 1972 on October 18 in New York.

Mr Vesco, the subject of Federal indictments on fraud and other charges, formerly controlled the electronics manufacturer and used it to gain control of I.O.S. the Swiss-based manager of a group of mutual funds. He is thought to be in Costa Rica.

As a result of a civil suit brought against Mr Vesco and others in November, 1972 by the Securities and Exchange Commission, International Controls has been run by a Court-appointed board since March, 1973.

International Controls said that proxy material for the election of directors would be posted about September 8 to registered holders of 100 shares. A spokesman said, however, that he could not say whether the present Court-appointed directors would stand for election. —AP-Dow Jones.

### South African groups to merge

Price Forbes Sedgwick, a partly-owned South African subsidiary of insurance broker Sedgwick Forbes Holdings, is to merge with Federale and Volkskas Makelaars (Pty). The two groups will also rationalize their financial interests.

The structure of the new company will be adjusted so that, at the beginning of the venture, Sedgwick Forbes will hold a 40 per cent share.

### Borthwick blocked

Wellington—A bid by the British-owned meat group Thomas Borthwick to take over the locally owned Cargill Meat Company has been rejected by the New Zealand government.

Prime Minister Mr Robert D. Muldoon told a press conference that the Cabinet has given approval to Hawke's Bay Farmers Meat to proceed with negotiations.

Mr Muldoon said that the decision was based on Borthwick's overseas ownership, with no former involvement in New Zealand, and that the meat industry would have a near monopoly in the lower half of the nation's North Island if its bid had gone ahead.

### McKay Securities climb one third

Property investment company McKay Securities boosted pre-tax profit by more than a third to £251,000 in the 12 months to March 31 last.

Interest and overheads of overseas trading development sucked £84,600 from profits this time round compared with £131,000 previously while income on properties in the course of development amounted to £57,000 against £32,000.

General Accident, the Perth-based insurance giant, has a 26.3 per cent holding in the company while Farrington Property Trust owns a further 12.5 per cent.

### Victor makes it seven in a row

A leap in pre-tax profits of 41.4 per cent to £850,000 for the year to April 30, gives Victor Properties (Welland), major of lighting and minor equipment, record profits for the seventh consecutive year since being made public in 1972. Turnover goes up from £5m to £6.3m and earnings a 10.5 per cent rise to £57,500. The gross dividend is 4.58p compared with 4.17p. At half time pre-tax profits were up from £39,000 to £571,000.

The directors are to pay a final dividend of 7.5 cents per A share and a 2.5 cent cash bonus while for B shares there is a 0.75 cent final and a 0.25 cent interim.

Earlier this year share sales by the chairman Mr John Marden and a director Mr John Cheung were the subject of an investigation but the Hongkong Attorney-General's Office decided to take no legal action.

ALLIED POLYMER GROUP, a subsidiary of the Canadian manufacturing and sales enterprise to serve Canadian marine, aeronautical, military and leisure markets, is to be sold to the Ritz Hotel of Vancouver.

J. F. NASH SECURITIES, a company has completed sale of 40 per cent holding of capital in associate AA Hales for £300,000.

Business appointments

### Stewart & Lloyds' new financial controller

Mr Richard Anderson has been made financial controller of the Stewart & Lloyds Group.

Mr M. Tarnish joins the board of A.V.P. Industries.

Mr H. Walker, an executive director of Lambert Howarth Group, becomes joint managing director of the group.

Mr C. L. Howarth ceases to be a joint managing director but remains chairman, Mr K. W. Hartley and Mr J. C. Howarth join the board.

Mr D. J. Eldridge is now chairman of Emray, succeeding Mr P. Harman Jones.

Mr R. Shorter and Mr D. C. Pearson have become deputy chairmen of Austin Reed Group.

Mr Ben Davies is to be made chairman of Unigate's milk division. He succeeds Mr David Hood who is to retire in the coming year. Mr Hugh Davies has taken over as chairman of the foods division from Mr Jonathan Fry, who becomes planning director.

Mr John Read will take over as chairman of a transport and engineering division previously headed by Mr Davies, and remains finance director.

Mr Michael Armstrong has become a director of ITW.

Mr Walter Jones is now managing director of Anchor Hotels and Resorts.

Mr George Bousfield who has become senior retail trade director of Courage (Central).

## Mary Kathleen \$A8m interim loss

Reporting a hefty first-half deficit, the board of Mary Kathleen Uranium warns that, not surprisingly, the company's financial position is still "critical".

In the first half of 1977, the company made a loss of \$A8.37m (about £5.3m). These results were abnormally affected by production problems and the increased cost of procuring U308 to replace that lost by a reactor breakdown in the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority in 1976. For the first half of last year, the loss was \$A4.23m. But as output of U308 did not start until February, 1976, the results are not directly comparable. The company expects to incur a further, though significantly smaller, loss in the second half of this year.

"It is on with MKU's two major shareholders for the provision of a satisfactory return on their investment," MKU is 51 per cent owned by Comstar Resources, of Australia, which, in turn, is 72.6 per cent controlled by RTZ.

The directors are to pay a final dividend of 7.5 cents per A share and a 2.5 cent cash bonus while for B shares there is a 0.75 cent final and a 0.25 cent interim.

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The Council of the Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List the whole of the £10,000,000 Dudley Metropolitan Floating Rate Stock 1982 at £100 per cent. The application has been made on 23 August 1977 and will be closed later on the same day.

## OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

**Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited**  
Offer for Sale  
£10,000,000 Oldham Metropolitan Borough  
Floating Rate Stock 1982 at £100 per cent.  
payable in full on application

Interest (less income tax) will be payable half-yearly on 22nd February and 22nd August. Interest amounting to £4,093.55 (less income tax) per £100 Stock in respect of the half-year commencing 22nd August 1977 will be paid on 22nd February 1978.

The Stock is not an investment falling within Part II of the First Schedule to the Trustee Investments Act 1961.

**THE STOCK.**—The Stock was authorized by a Resolution of the Council of Oldham Metropolitan Borough (the Council) on 22nd April 1977 and was issued under the authority of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Authorities (Stocks and Bonds) Regulations 1974 in accordance with a General Consent given by the Council on 22nd April 1977.

The Stock is authorized in full by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited ("Morgan Grenfell") under the provisions of an Agreement with Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited dated 22nd April 1977.

**INTEREST.**—(a) Interest on the Stock will be payable by half-yearly instalments in arrears on 22nd February and 22nd August. Interest payable on each year at the rate per annum calculated as provided in (b) and (c) below.

(b) The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1977 to 22nd February 1978 will be 11.5% per annum.

(c) The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd February 1978 to 22nd August 1978 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

The rate of interest payable in respect of the period from 22nd August 1978 to 22nd February 1979 will be the rate per annum determined by Morgan Grenfell acting as an expert and not as agent for the Council.

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**Siemens AG** In Great Britain: Siemens Ltd.



## Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds				
NAME OF	1970/71	1970/71	1970/71	1970/71

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

32.1	32.9	New Issue	32.6	32.2	4.81	48 HART ST. BELOIT ON 10/10/88	0002	new	29.4	28.2	H.C. EX/GRS	29.4	31.0	16 Cypress Rd. Bristol	0077	
32.6	26.5	North American	32.1	27.3	4.26	181.3 89.3 Perpetual Grth	180.3	771.0	6.80	29.8	28.2	Bld Soc Tax Ex	29.8	27.1	151.2 121.0 Bond Pnd (48)	154.8
32.7	32.7	Professional	32.6	32.0	1.50	Precision Cash Trust Managers Ltd.	29.0			29.0	28.2	Schl US Mgr/Inv	29.0	29.4	148.6 131.2 Equity Pnd (48)	148.6
32.8	32.8	Promote Shares	32.8	32.3	2.67	28 Tondom Exl E C 2 MGT	31.0	new		29.8	28.2	AR/Inv Tax Ex	29.8	29.8		

49.0	38.0	British Life	47.9	36.7	5.68	34.6	33.4	Private Fund	33.4	32.5	1.04		
43.6	32.6	Balanced (?)	43.6	40.5	5.57	37.4	42.3	Accum Fnd	37.4	37.5	1.38		
36.7	28.3	Dividend (?)	36.7	41.4	5.22	36.0	32.1	Technology Fnd	36.1	32.5	4.03		
						35.5	33.3	Sovereign Fnd	35.5	33.5	2.10		
								Equity & Low Lih. Amerabank Society Ltd.	213.3	123.6	Equity Fnd	212.3	222.4
								Amerabank Rq. High Wycombe - 04% ISSU	1186.0	123.5	Fixed Int Fnd	1183.3	1161.7
								100.3, 100.0 Equity Fnd	335.3	119.5	Property Fnd	126.7	133.4

138.6	151.9	Do Accum G	138.0	251.6	4.56	132.8	95.3	Practical Ins	137.5	136.4	4.57
30.8	31.4	Common Fin	28.7	32.4	4.69	151.4	130.2	Do Accum G	134.8	139.9	4.57
13.9	13.9	Do General	16.8	17.8	4.28			Provincial Life Investment Co Ltd.			

18.4	Do	Shawes	127.0	9.00	PRINCIPAL & MORTGAGE SECURITIES	25 Grosvenor St, London W1	01-405 2242
17.4	Do	Overseas	121.1	1.50	Wolfehouse Burs, London, ECCC 2078	01-405 2262	
50.4	Do	Perfor	49.3	5.50	221.0	22.0	22.0
22.0	Do	Index	22.0	4.00	221.0	22.0	22.0

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108.9	94.3	(se) (26)		..	107.9	6.67	47.1	28.9	Do Property	48.4	48.8	3.04	NLA Tw, Addicomb Rd, Croydon - 01-488-8888	308.5	23.3 Growth (1)	308.3	23.3		
214.6	148.1	Accum (24)		..	214.1		107.9	88.0	Select Growth	101.1	104.7	3.82	308.5	23.3 Growth (1)	308.3	23.3			
Charterhouse Japhet Unit Management Ltd.										94.3	83.5	Do Income	93.4	94.5	0.06	308.5	23.3 Int'l Prod C	308.4	23.4
													308.5	23.4 Mm Unit	308.5	23.4			

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20.3	24.1	International	22.1	34.4	3.00	(110000 Paces)	23.7	25.0	Mortgage Pk	23.7	23.8	Charterhouse Japan	31.2			
Crescent Unit Trust Managers Ltd.						140 South St.	Durking.	23.7	25.0	Cony High Sch	23.7	23.9	1. Paternoster Row, EC4	31.2		
4	McVie's Crescent, Edinburgh.	031-226	0371	19.6	12.1	CK Acc Units	19.6	21.0	Overseas Pk	21.7	21.8	22.50	25.00	Adstraps	DM 25.30	31.2
24.5	16.0	South Sea	08.4	23.6	3.37	Do Off Units	19.6	21.5	Overseas Pk	21.7	21.8	DM 25.30	31.2			

Equitas Securities Ltd.	27.3	28.6	Amers Growth	27.0	28.0	2.78	For Individuals: British Columbia Co Ltd.	27.0	28.0	2.78
42 Bishopsgate, London, EC2.	27.6	28.2	"No Wind Fund"	28.2	28.3	0.37	see Schroder Life Group.	28.2	28.3	0.37
62.1 39.3 Progressive	28.3	28.9	Market Leaders	27.9	28.0	4.37	British Life Insurance Co.	27.9	28.0	4.37
61.5 64.9 4.63	28.4	29.0	Schl. Am. Ex. Fund	28.0	28.0	3.84		28.0	28.0	3.84

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80.0	61.0	High Yield	80.0	35.0	8.13	58.5	44.7	American Fund	55.1	59.5	1.97	117.8	105.8	Do Deposit	117.8	129.0	5th Georgia St. Douglas, IOM	Do
		G and A Unit Trust Managers Ltd.				115.0	73.6	Brit Cap Fund	115.0	123.5	4.30	133.4	112.1	Pen Dep Fund	133.4	140.5		
		Weymouth Rd. Botton, Essex.	0277 227300					Sum Alliance Fund Management Ltd.				250.5	168.2	Do Equity Fund	250.5	263.7		
												167.1	130.4	Do FI Fund	167.1	175.8		
												22.1	15.7	Int Income (3)	22.1	24.5		18.8
												62.9	40.2	Bo Growth (10)	62.9	53.5		5

58.9	59.3	Do Account	87.9	93.1	1.50	Target Trust Managers Ltd.	Manulife Hse. Stenhouse, Berts.	0488 80101	29.07	1.25	Atlantic Exp.	\$ 2.01
147.5	91.3	Do Income	146.2	135.5	7.80	Target Hse. Aylesbury, Bucks.	40.9	25.1	Manulife 751	40.3	42.3	\$ 1.38
142.5	124.3	Do US Gen Fnd	125.4	133.4	2.70	30.5	29.1	Commodity	32.8	32.2	3.82	
						56.5	39.4	Standard	51.1	57.7	4.60	
								Merchant Investors Assurance				
								Neptune International Fund Man				

Gartmore Fund Managers.		01-383 3531		20.9		23.8 American Tst		33.6		23.4		1.76	
25.8	21.5	Growth	28.8	31.0	4.31	132.7	95.5	Do Pension	130.7	..	..	..	..
210.9	90.6	Gilt Fund	107.5	113.1	4.06	98.9	73.7	Managed Bond	98.9	..	..	..	..
29.6	24.9	International	23.2	26.3	1.70	121.5	91.5	Do Pension	123.8	..	..	..	..
30.7	27.5	Do Bond	25.5	27.4	1.70	122.4	91.5	Do Pension	123.8	..	..	..	..

Old Court Fund Managers Ltd  
PO Box 38, St. Julian's Ct. Gormsey.

[illegible]

214.3	138.1	Do Accum	212.3	222.9	3.96	TSB Unit Trusts	123.0	85.5	Family Bond 1977	132.0	..	4 Irish Place, Gibraltar	74			
157.0	96.3	High Yield	157.0	164.5	7.16	21 Chantry Way, Andover, Hants. Andover	153.5	108.1	Do 1981/88	135.5	..	120.9	113.1	Gib Inv Tst	106.5	
170.8	102.4	Do Accum	170.8	179.7	7.16	41.5	28.4	General	-41.8	43.9	1.63	..	..	..	..	..
												118.4	124.4	..	..	..
												82.9	77.5	Key City Inv	97.0	..
												82.6	71.4	Waypoint End	50.6	..

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71.0	51.2	World Wide	71.0	52.4	2.12	67.5	41.3	Do Dividend	67.5	35.5	1.89	67.0	56.4	Ebor Pkz Eq/321	67.0	70.3	106.7	102.8	S Managed	106.0
			71.0	52.4	2.12	67.5	41.8	Do Div Acc	67.5	70.7	7.80									
H&J Samuel Unit Trust Managers Ltd.										Property Equity & Life Ass Co.										
NG Beech St. ECG Park										119 Crawford St. London, W.C1										
01-424 8071										01-488 0857										
See also Grierson Management Co Ltd										PO Box 98, St Heller, Jersey										
										Surinvest (Jersey) Ltd.										

485.0	93.4	Do Guaranty	141.6	151.6	3.49	160.9	100.0	Do Accum (3)	162.6	170.3	1.36	74.1	89.6	Do Managed	73.3
27.3	17.3	Capital	26.8	28.7	1.02	115.2	78 U Capital (3)	115.9	120.0	3.95	45.8	48.3	Do Equity Bnd	68.6	
97.4	50.0	Floated Total	91.3	97.0	4.75	157.6	101.6	Do Accum (3)	157.4	165.4	3.88	138.1	60.9	Do Flex May	138.0
36.6	14.1	Income Tax	36.0	37.3	1.00	80.4	50.0	Convance End (3)	80.0	84.6	5.64				

Noted by 1700 Manager's sec.  
 59 Athol St. Douglas, IOM.  
 1122 94.8 The Silver Trx 9.9  
 The First Group (Barrington)

3 Milk St. ECST 51E	01-008 7070	230.0	126.8	Int Earn Fnd (2)	231.2	242.8	5.16	107.0	478.0	LC Bond	602.8	2.47	1.25	3 Way Int 160 \$ 0.26	
62.9	48.6	Cap Fund	42.7	66.6	4.48	290.3	266.8	Do Accum (3)	262.4	263.4	5.16	840.6	478.0	AC Bond (29)	602.8
75.3	48.4	Energy Ind Fnd	74.9	127.8	74.2	Scot Cap (3)	127.8	134.2	4.93	637.4	591.0	Do 4A	637.4		
				147.4	74.2	Do Legum F	147.4	154.4	4.88	1484.0	131.5	Abt Nat PG (29)	142.8		

Tyndall Group (Jersey)  
43 La Motte St. St Helier, Jersey

[illegible]

32.4	34.4	High Yield Fnd	42.5	48.9	11.30	Insurance Bonds and Funds -	162.8	135.0	Net Annuity (29)	127.8	price. & Ex all. e Dealings suspes
30.7	34.4	Do Accum	36.7	42.4	11.30	Abber Life Assurance Co. Ltd.	122.0	112.5	Immed Ann (33)	122.0	divided f Cash value for £100 per
31.8	35.0	Raw Materials	31.7	33.5	7.10	1-3 St. Pauls Churchyard, EC4P 4DX GL-268 9111	Property Growth Pensions & Assurances Ltd.				bonus. & Estimated yield. & Yield p

5	Contra 60 Bd. Bristol	0272	20241	76.9	63.5	Select Fund (3)	76.7	80.8	131.7	108.7	Conv Pen Fnd	151.7	Aug 24, 1987 Aug 31, 1987 Sep 15, 1987
51.4	53.8	Distribution (40)	51.4	54.4	8.8	124.2	114.2	Conv Fund	124.2	130.8			21, 2nd Thursday of month, 22
62.5	41.8	De Accum (40)	62.5	68.4	3.9	116.1	109.9	Money Fund	116.1	122.9			Wednesday of month, 23, 20th of mo
									130.9	109.1	Muni Pen Cap	127.0	

\$74.1	68.4	Do Accum	93.4	68.1	4.28	123.4	123.1	Do Securities	123.4		123.4	100.4	Sch Grd Pct.		123.4	month, (3)1st working day of month	1	1-2	
50.5	37.4	2nd Capital	47.0	30.3	-16.7	123.3	123.5	Do Managed	123.3	161.4	..	114.4	100.4	In Capital		123.4	month, (3)1st working day of month	1	1-2
28.2	44.6	Do Accum	37.7	82.0	44.3	79.9	21.0	Equity Series 4	-28.4	118.4	..				Federal Parents Ltd.	(3)1st day of Feb., May, A	1	1-2	
28.2	51.0	2nd Income	77.5	87.1	9.6	111.0	100.0	Prop-Series 4	111.0	118.4	..	Holtborn Bldg. BCIN ZNH.			C-285 2022	Last working day of month, (3)51st	1	1-2	



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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Aug. 22. Dealings End, Sept. 2. § Contango Day, Sept. 3. Settlement Day, Sept. 13  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

هكذا من الأصل











